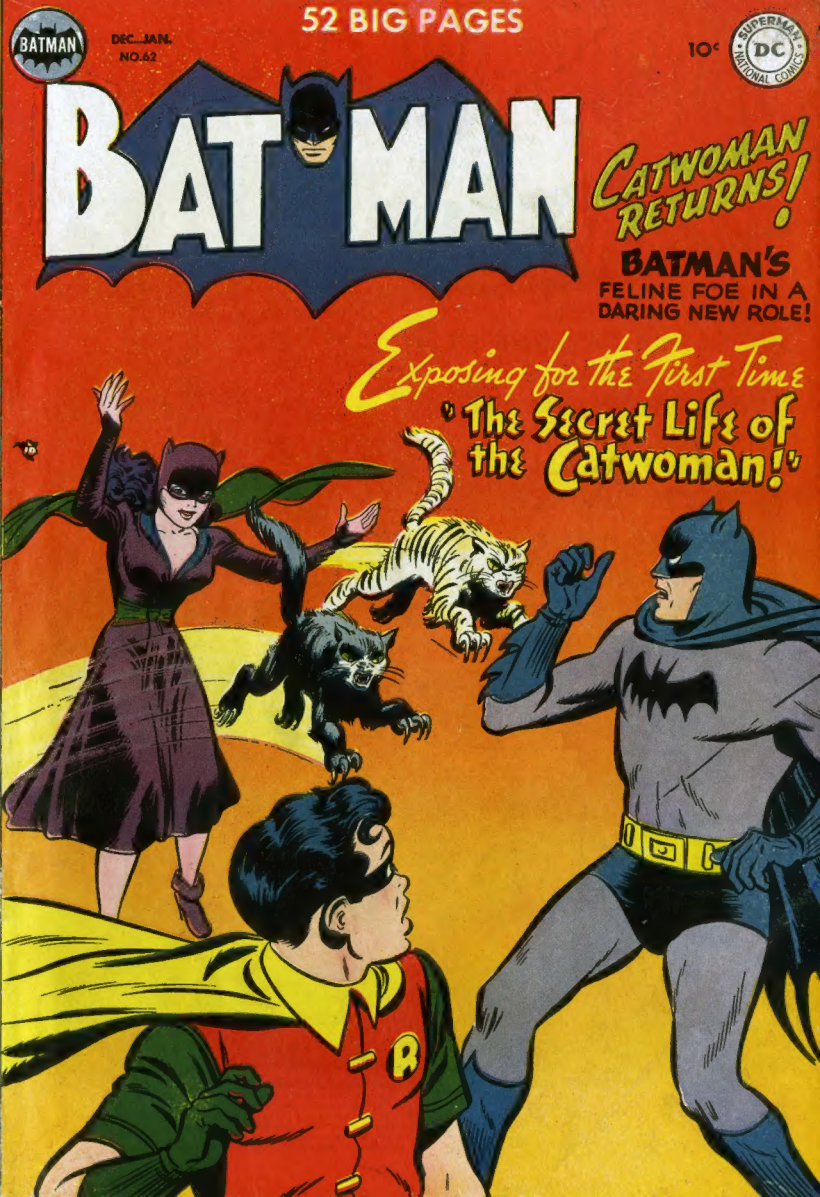

52 BIG PAGES
BATMAN
DEC.-JAN.
NO. 62
10¢
SUPERMAN-
NATIONAL COMICS
DC
BATMAN
CATWOMAN RETURNS!
BATMAN'S
FELINE FOE IN A
DARING NEW ROLE!
Exposing for the First Time
"The Secret Life of the Catwoman!"

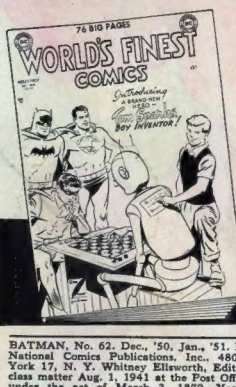
EVERYBODY-BUT *EVERYBODY*

WANTS

AND NO WONDER! JUDY'S THE DARLINGEST, DIZZIEST, SMARTEST, CUTEST GAL WHO EVER RACED THROUGH THE FAST-ACTION PAGES OF HER OWN MAGAZINE!

WHY DON'T YOU MAKE A DATE WITH JUDY TODAY?

ON SALE EVERYWHERE!



—AND DON'T FORGET THAT **SUPERMAN *AND* BATMAN** *AND* A FLOCK OF *OTHER* TOP-FLIGHT ADVENTURE HEROES ***ALL*** APPEAR IN THE PAGES OF THAT GIANT 76-PAGE **WORLD'S FINEST COMICS!**

ANOTHER GREAT MAGAZINE WITH THE WORLD-FAMOUS SUPERMAN DC SYMBOL ON THE COVER!

SUPERMAN · DC · NATIONAL COMICS

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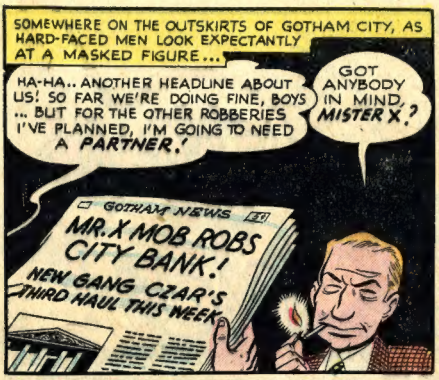
Printed in U.S.A.

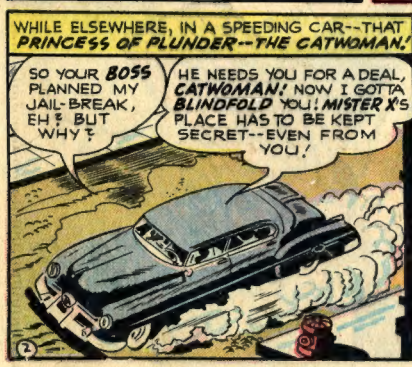
BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
THE CATWOMAN IS BACK!
YES, ONCE AGAIN THE PRINCESS OF PLUNDER RETURNS TO BARE HER CLAWS AT BATMAN AND ROBIN AS SHE PLANS CRIMES AS SMOOTH AS A CAT'S FUR! BUT THEN -- SOMETHING HAPPENS! AND EXACTLY WHAT THAT IS WILL ASTOUND YOU AS MUCH AS IT DID THE DYNAMIC DUO! FOR, BEHIND THE DARK, GLITTERING EYES OF THE CATWOMAN ARE MYSTERY AND THE ASTONISHING ANSWER TO...
"THE Secret Life of THE CATWOMAN"
by BOB KANE
NO
NO
NO


SOMEWHERE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY, AS HARD-FACED MEN LOOK EXPECTANTLY AT A MASKED FIGURE...
HA-HA.. ANOTHER HEADLINE ABOUT US! SO FAR WE'RE DOING FINE, BOYS ... BUT FOR THE OTHER ROBBERIES I'VE PLANNED, I'M GOING TO NEED A PARTNER.!
GOT ANYBODY IN MIND, MISTER X.?
GOTHAM NEWS
MR. X MOB ROBS CITY BANK!
NEW GANG CZAR'S THIRD HAUL THIS WEEK

YES-- THE CLEVEREST, MOST DANGEROUS--AND MOST BEAUTIFUL LADY OF CRIME IN THE COUNTRY-- THE CATWOMAN.!
CATWOMAN? BUT SHE'S IN JAIL.!

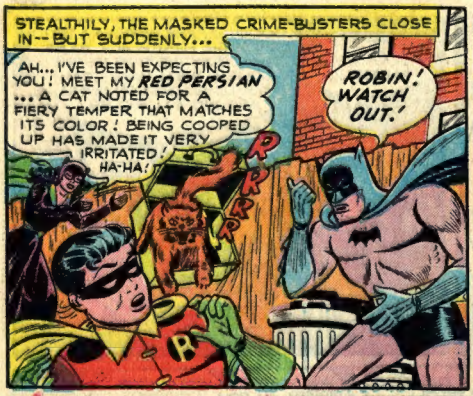
THEN WE'LL GET HER OUT! YES, I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO IT... AND ONCE CATWOMAN IS FREE, NOTHING WILL STOP US! WE'LL EMBARK ON A CRIME WAVE THE LIKES OF WHICH GOTHAM CITY HAS NEVER BEFORE SEEN!
SLAM

NEXT DAY, IN THE HOME OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...
GOOD GRIEF, BATMAN! LOOK AT THAT HEADLINE ON THE TELEVISION SCREEN! CATWOMAN'S OUT TO COMMIT MORE CRIMES!
CATWOMAN ESCAPES THROUGH DYNAMITED PRISON WALL!
RIGHT, BATMAN!
NOT IF WE CAN HELP IT... RIGHT, ROBIN?


WHILE ELSEWHERE, IN A SPEEDING CAR--THAT PRINCESS OF PLUNDER--THE CATWOMAN!
SO YOUR BOSS PLANNED MY JAIL-BREAK, EH? BUT WHY?
HE NEEDS YOU FOR A DEAL, CATWOMAN! NOW I GOTTA BLINDFOLD YOU! MISTER X'S PLACE HAS TO BE KEPT SECRET--EVEN FROM YOU!
2

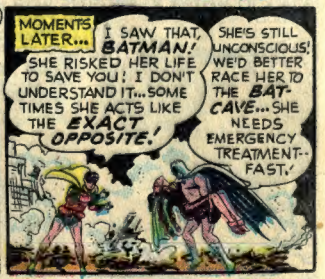
SOON, CRIME QUEEN MEETS CRIME KING!
MISTER X, I PRESUME!
CORRECT, CATWOMAN... LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS! I'VE GOT MANY JOBS LINED UP FOR MY MOB, BUT IN ORDER TO WORK THEM, THE BOYS MIGHT HAVE TO KILL GUARDS OR WATCHMEN! THAT, I DON'T WANT... I DON'T EVER WANT A MURDER RAP HANGING OVER MY HEAD!

CATWOMAN, YOU ALWAYS ROB WITHOUT KILLING, BY USING YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF CATS! SO HERE'S MY OFFER -- YOU DO THE JOBS FOR ME, AND WE'LL SHARE THE LOOT! IF YOU REFUSE, I'LL DO THE JOBS ANYWAY! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
OKAY--WE'RE PARTNERS!
GOOD! DIPPER, HERE, WILL TELL YOU OF THE FIRST PLACE TO BE ROBBED! BY THE TIME WE'RE THROUGH, WE'LL HAVE COMMISSIONER GORDON GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES!
LATER, AS THE CATWOMAN AND DIPPER DISCUSS ROBBERY PLANS IN A CRIMINAL HANGOUT...
HYA, DIPPER OL' PAL! DID-DIDJA TALK TO MISTER X ABOUT ME JOINING HIS MOB, HUH?
BEAT IT, MOUSEY! MISTER X DON'T WANT YOU AROUND! HE LIKES GUYS WITH NERVE! IF THE COPS EVER LOOKED AT YOU, YOU'D FAINT!
AW, PLEASE, DIPPER. I'LL DO ANYTHING TO JOIN THE MOB! UGH! DON'T SHOVE!
HE'S ALWAYS AROUND, CATWOMAN! A REGULAR PEST! HE'S JUST LIKE HIS NAME -- MOUSEY!
CAREFUL, MOUSEY, OR I'LL SEND THIS CAT AFTER YOU, HA-HA!
SPLAT
MEOWRR
LATER, IN THE CAT-WOMAN'S EERIE LAIR...
(YAWN) I HATE TO LEAVE THIS WARM FIRE AND MY PRETTY PETS -- BUT IT'S TIME I LOOKED OVER THE FIRST PLACE I'M TO ROB! (YAWN)
MEOWRRR
BUT AS SHE STEPS OUT INTO THE NIGHT...
YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT, BATMAN! HER HIDEOUT IS SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE! LET'S GO!
LOOK, ROBIN! IT'S THE CATWOMAN!


STEALTHILY, THE MASKED CRIME-BUSTERS CLOSE IN--BUT SUDDENLY...
AH... I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! MEET MY RED PERSIAN ... A CAT NOTED FOR A FIERY TEMPER THAT MATCHES ITS COLOR! BEING COOPED UP HAS MADE IT VERY IRRITATED! HA-HA!
ROBIN! WATCH OUT!
R R R R

WHILE ROBIN PARRIES THE CLAWING CAT, BATMAN PURSUES THE FELINE FELON PAST A CONDEMNED BUILDING, WHERE ...
OHH! A SECTION OF THE WALL IS TOPPLING! BATMAN WILL BE KILLED! I'LL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE NOW! I'LL BE FREE!
WARNING BEWARE OF FALLING BRICKS

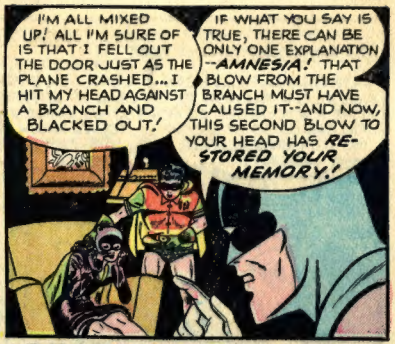
BUT WAIT! FOR A SPLIT INSTANT, THE CATWOMAN HESITATES, THEN, LIKE A STREAK OF SABLE LIGHTNING, SHE LEAPS TO SAVE BATMAN!
GET BACK! BA... UHH!
WHAT..?
CRASH

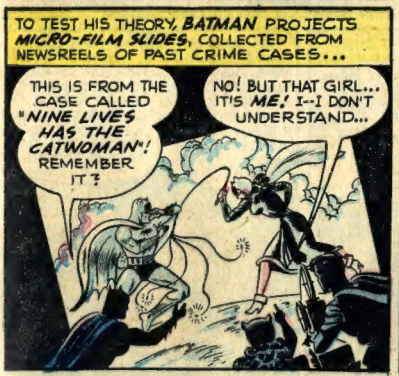

MOMENTS LATER...
I SAW THAT, BATMAN! SHE RISKED HER LIFE TO SAVE YOU! I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT... SOMETIMES SHE ACTS LIKE THE EXACT OPPOSITE!
SHE'S STILL UNCONSCIOUS! WE'D BETTER RACE HER TO THE BAT-CAVE... SHE NEEDS EMERGENCY TREATMENT-- FAST!

PRESENTLY, IN THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
SHE'S COMING TO!
LISTEN! WHAT'S SHE SAYING?
FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS! IF WE REMAIN CALM THE PILOT WILL GET US DOWN SAFELY!
FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS

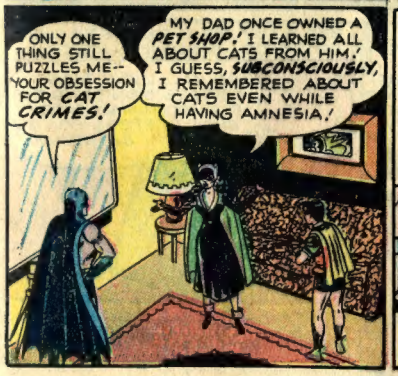
THEN, AS HER EYES SNAP OPEN...
WH-WHERE AM I? WHERE ARE THE PASSENGERS? DID WE LAND SAFELY? WH-WHO ARE YOU?
CATWOMAN, YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT WE'RE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

OH, YES... I'VE READ ABOUT YOU! BUT WHY DID YOU CALL ME "CATWOMAN"? I'M SELINA KYLE... STEWARDESS WITH SPEED AIRLINES, AND--OHH--WHY AM I WEARING THIS STRANGE COSTUME?... AND WHY IS YOUR CALENDAR ALL WRONG?... IT WON'T BE 1950 FOR YEARS!
1950
OCTOBER


I'M ALL MIXED UP! ALL I'M SURE OF IS THAT I FELL OUT THE DOOR JUST AS THE PLANE CRASHED... I HIT MY HEAD AGAINST A BRANCH AND BLACKED OUT.
IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE EXPLANATION --AMNESIA! THAT BLOW FROM THE BRANCH MUST HAVE CAUSED IT--AND NOW, THIS SECOND BLOW TO YOUR HEAD HAS RESTORED YOUR MEMORY!


TO TEST HIS THEORY, BATMAN PROJECTS MICRO-FILM SLIDES, COLLECTED FROM NEWSREELS OF PAST CRIME CASES...
THIS IS FROM THE CASE CALLED "NINE LIVES HAS THE CATWOMAN"! REMEMBER IT?
NO! BUT THAT GIRL... IT'S ME! I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

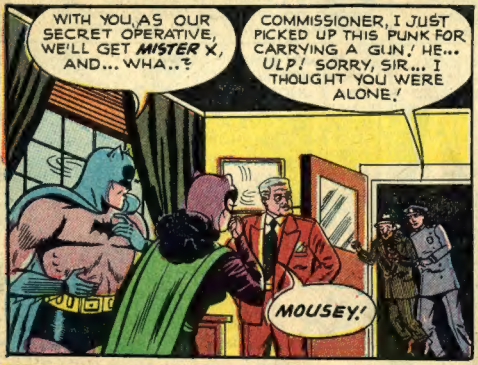
AND AS A PICTURE HISTORY OF THE CATWOMAN'S CRIMES IS SCREENED--"THE DUPED DOMESTICS", "THE CLAWS OF THE CATWOMAN", "THE LADY ROGUES"...
NO! NO! DON'T SHOW ME ANY MORE! NOW I UNDERSTAND ...WHILE I HAD AMNESIA, I BECAME A CRIMINAL! OHH.. HOW HORRIBLE... HORRIBLE...
I'M SORRY, SELINA, BUT YOU HAD TO KNOW THE TRUTH!

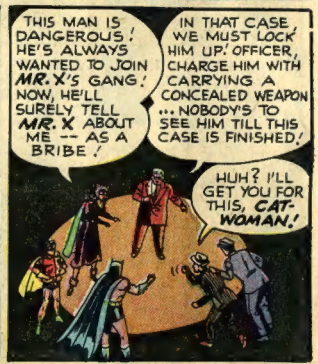

ONLY ONE THING STILL PUZZLES ME-- YOUR OBSESSION FOR CAT CRIMES!
MY DAD ONCE OWNED A PET SHOP! I LEARNED ALL ABOUT CATS FROM HIM! I GUESS, SUBCONSCIOUSLY, I REMEMBERED ABOUT CATS EVEN WHILE HAVING AMNESIA!

WE'D BETTER GO TO COMMISSIONER GORDON WITH YOUR STORY! TO KEEP THE BATCAVE'S LOCATION A SECRET, WE'LL HAVE TO BLINDFOLD YOU, SELINA!
BLINDFOLD? THAT WORD--SO FAMILIAR--SOMETHING IMPORTANT! WAIT--I REMEMBER! DIPPER--THE SECRET MEETING PLACE--MISTER X!
MISTER X?!
YES, AS IT OFTEN HAPPENS, IN AMNESIA CASES, A WORD STRIKES A CHORD, AND MEMORY BECOMES COMPLETE!

LATER, WHEN SELINA KYLE EXPLAINS THE FACTS TO THE COMMISSIONER...
CATWOMAN... ER...I MEAN MISS KYLE, IF YOU WISH TO ATONE FOR YOUR PAST CRIMES, YOU CAN DO SO BY BECOMING OUR UNDERCOVER AGENT.'
THAT'S RIGHT, SELINA... YOU'RE OUR BEST LEAD TO MISTER X, SO WE WANT YOU TO REMAIN AS HIS PARTNER.'

NO... PLEASE! I WANT TO PUT MY CRIMINAL PAST BEHIND ME.'
YOU WILL... BUT AFTERWARD,' REMEMBER, IF YOU PRETEND TO BE MISTER X'S PARTNER, THERE'LL BE NO MORE KILLINGS!' YOU'LL BE DOING A PUBLIC SERVICE! AND IF MY PLAN WORKS, YOU'LL ONLY HAVE TO DO ONE JOB.'


WITH YOU, AS OUR SECRET OPERATIVE, WE'LL GET MISTER X, AND... WHA...?
COMMISSIONER, I JUST PICKED UP THIS PUNK FOR CARRYING A GUN,' HE... ULP! SORRY, SIR... I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALONE.'
MOUSEY.'


THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS! HE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO JOIN MR. X'S GANG! NOW, HE'LL SURELY TELL MR. X ABOUT ME -- AS A BRIBE!
IN THAT CASE WE MUST LOCK HIM UP! OFFICER, CHARGE HIM WITH CARRYING A CONCEALED WEAPON ... NOBODY'S TO SEE HIM TILL THIS CASE IS FINISHED!
HUH? I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, CAT-WOMAN!

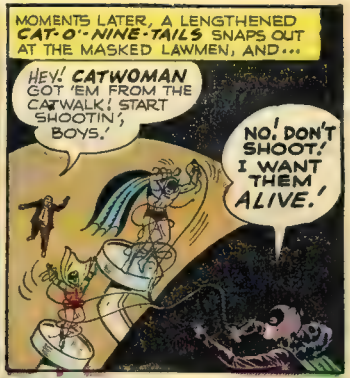
AFTER MOUSEY IS LED OFF...
WELL, SELINA KYLE... ALIAS THE CATWOMAN, YOU'RE NOW WORKING FOR THE LAW! DON'T FORGET THAT!
I WON'T -- UNLESS I GET AMNESIA AGAIN! I WAS SCARED, BUT NOT ANYMORE... NOT WHILE MOUSEY IS SAFELY LOCKED UP!

BUT IS HE? FOR AS SOON AS THE FURTIVE LITTLE CROOK IS ALONE IN HIS CELL...
HA, HA... LUCKY THOSE COPPERS DIDN'T FIND THIS FILE HIDDEN IN MY SHOE! ONCE I GET OUT, IT'LL BE BYE-BYE CATWOMAN!
EACH RASP OF THE FILE IS LIKE THE TICK OF A CLOCK... AND WITH EACH PASSING MOMENT, DEATH LOOMS CLOSER FOR SELINA KYLE -- ALIAS THE CATWOMAN!

THAT NIGHT, IN THE HALLWAY OF A FAMED RECORDING FIRM, SECRET OPERATIVE CATWOMAN EMBARKS ON HER UNDERCOVER ASSIGNMENT.
REMEMBER THE STORY OF "BELLING THE CAT"? I'VE DONE JUST THAT! THE COLLAR'S MECHANISM WILL KEEP THIS BELL RINGING CONSTANTLY! NOW GET SET...
DING DING DING
AND AS THE BELLED CAT IS RELEASED INTO A RECORDING STUDIO...
SOMEWHERE THE MOON IS... EEEK!
OMYGOSH! WE'VE GOT TO CATCH THAT CAT BEFORE HER BELL RUINS RECORDS IN THE OTHER STUDIOS TOO!..COME ON-- EVERYBODY!
DING DING DING DING
THEN, WHILE EVERYONE CHASES AFTER THE JANGLING CAT...
NICE WORK, CATWOMAN... THERE AIN'T A PERSON IN SIGHT! WE'LL GET A NICE HAUL HERE, SINCE ALL MASTER RECORDS ARE MADE OF GOLD PLATE.
THE SCOUNDRELS! DURING MY AMNESIA, I'D HAVE GLORIED IN THIS ROBBERY! NOW IT JUST SICKENS ME!
MASTER RECORD ROOM KEEP OUT!
LATER, ON A LONELY ROAD...
HERE'S YOUR SHARE, CATWOMAN ... AND THIS PAPER HAS THE NAME OF THE NEXT PLACE WE ROB!
BUT WAIT... I THOUGHT I WAS TO DEAL WITH MISTER X PERSONALLY!
SORRY... MISTER X GAVE ORDERS! YOU DON'T SEE HIM TILL ALL THE JOBS ARE DONE!
STILL LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS..
SO--THE WELPRUF CASH REGISTER COMPANY IS NEXT ON THEIR LIST!
YES, COMMISSIONER-- BUT MUST I GO ON WITH THIS? I FIND STEALING SO HATEFUL... SO HORRIBLE!
WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE OUR PLANS-- GET MISTER X DIFFERENTLY! NOW, LISTEN..
MEANWHILE, IN MOUSEY'S CELL...
ONE BAR GONE! TWO MORE TO GO! THEN, I'LL BE OUT TO TIP OFF THE GANG ABOUT CATWOMAN!
SNAP
WILL MOUSEY ESCAPE IN TIME? WILL HE BE ABLE TO EXPOSE THE CATWOMAN TO CERTAIN DEATH?

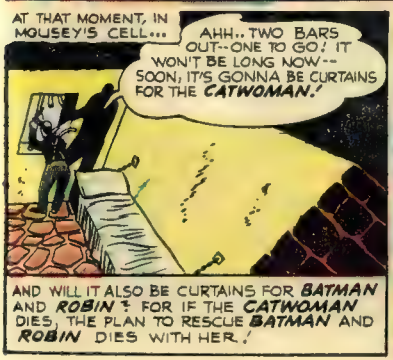
LATER, ATOP THE WELL-GUARDED CASH REGISTER PLANT...
THE DOOR OPENS BY ELECTRICITY--WHEN A GUARD PUSHES DOWN THAT SWITCH LEVER! BUT HOW DO WE GET AT THE SWITCH? IT'S OVER 20 FEET DOWN--AND AT THE SIDE!
JUST WATCH THIS MECHANICAL MOUSE!
SILENTLY, THE CORD UNREELS UNTIL THE "MOUSE" ALMOST TOUCHES THE FLOOR..
IF THAT LEVER WASN'T SET SO FAR OVER, WE COULD DROP SOMETHIN' HEAVY ON IT, BUT... BUT... HEY, WHY THE CAT?
THIS CAT WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR US!
AND AS THE CATWOMAN RELEASES THE LIVE ANIMAL...
SEE? SHE'S SPOTTED THAT FAKE MOUSE! AND THE ONLY WAY SHE CAN REACH IT IS BY FIRST LANDING ON THAT DOOR LEVER!
STEEL DOOR OF PLANT STARTS TO OPEN... (3)
ELECTRIC FAN--1ST LANDING (1)
DOOR LEVER GOES DOWN OPENING DOOR (2)
PURSUIT OF TOY MOUSE (4)
BEFORE THE GUARDS REALIZE IT, MISTER X'S MEN ARE THROUGH THE OPEN DOOR...
JUST RELAX, BUD... AND IT WON'T HURT A BIT.
CLUNK!
MEOWRRR
BUT AS THEY CROSS ANOTHER ROOM...
QUICK--ROBIN! SWING BACK TO THE CASH REGISTER.!
LOOK!... UP THERE... IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN.! SAIL INTO 'EM, BOYS!
UH-UH.!... NO SAILING TODAY.!
NO SALE
8

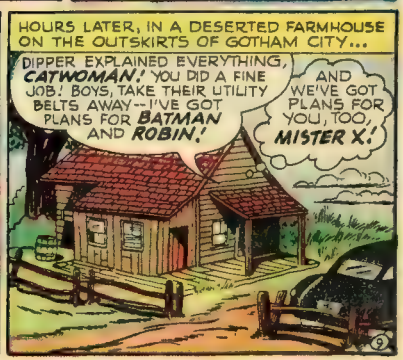
MISSED, BLAST 'EM! THEY KEEP HOPPING AROUND!
TIME FOR ME TO GO INTO ACTION!

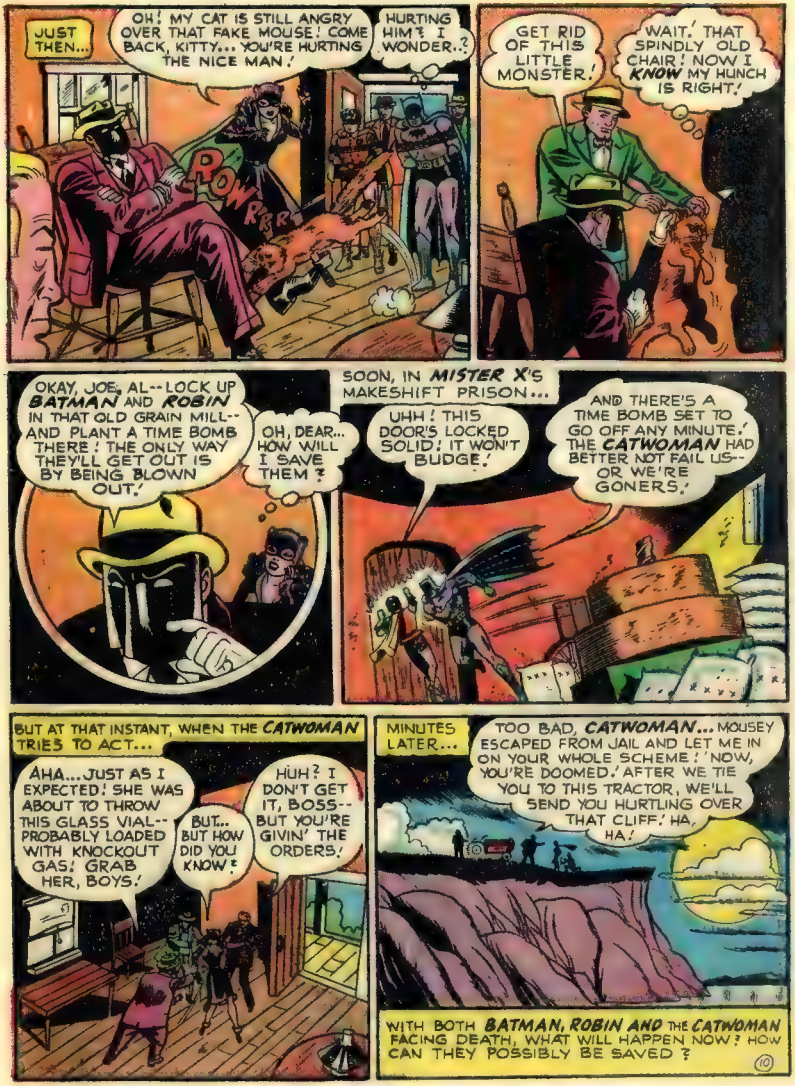

MOMENTS LATER, A LENGTHENED CAT-O'-NINE-TAILS SNAPS OUT AT THE MASKED LAWMEN, AND...
HEY! CATWOMAN GOT 'EM FROM THE CATWALK! START SHOOTIN', BOYS!
NO! DON'T SHOOT! I WANT THEM ALIVE!

HUH? WHAT'S S'MATTER, CATWOMAN? GOIN' SOFT?
FOOLS! MY DEAL WITH MISTER X DIDN'T INCLUDE THE CAPTURE OF BATMAN AND ROBIN! I WANT A BONUS FOR THIS, AND I DON'T TALK BUSINESS TILL I SEE MISTER X IN PERSON!
OKAY! THIS IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH FOR ME TO CONTACT HIM!

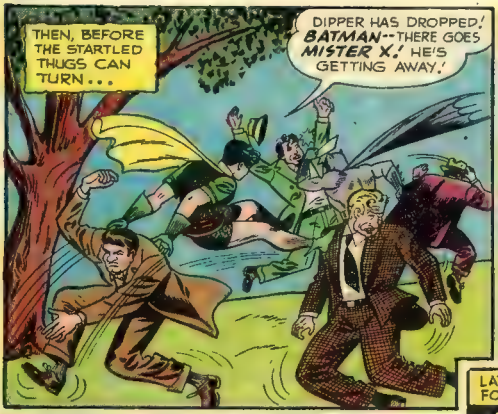
YOUR PLAN'S WORKING, BATMAN! AT LAST, WE'RE GOING TO MEET MISTER X!
YES, ROBIN, BUT WE MUST REMAIN CAREFUL... LETTING OURSELVES BE "CAPTURED" IS ONLY HALF THE JOB! FROM NOW ON, ONE SLIPUP, AND WE'RE DEAD DUCKS!

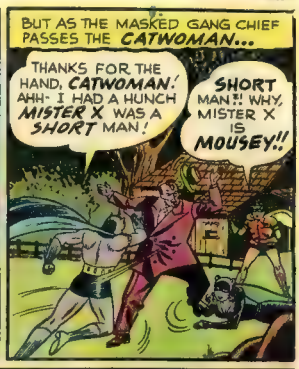

AT THAT MOMENT, IN MOUSEY'S CELL...
AHH.. TWO BARS OUT--ONE TO GO! IT WON'T BE LONG NOW--SOON, IT'S GONNA BE CURTAINS FOR THE CATWOMAN!
AND WILL IT ALSO BE CURTAINS FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN? FOR IF THE CATWOMAN DIES, THE PLAN TO RESCUE BATMAN AND ROBIN DIES WITH HER!

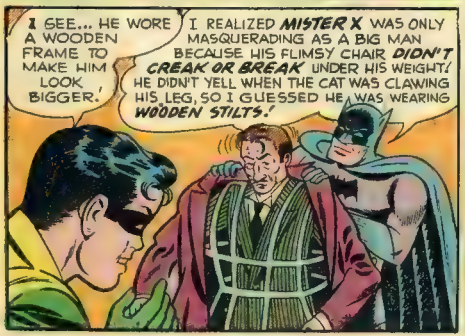

HOURS LATER, IN A DESERTED FARMHOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...
DIPPER EXPLAINED EVERYTHING, CATWOMAN! YOU DID A FINE JOB! BOYS, TAKE THEIR UTILITY BELTS AWAY--I'VE GOT PLANS FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AND WE'VE GOT PLANS FOR YOU, TOO, MISTER X!


JUST THEN...
OH! MY CAT IS STILL ANGRY OVER THAT FAKE MOUSE! COME BACK, KITTY... YOU'RE HURTING THE NICE MAN!
HURTING HIM? I WONDER..?
POWRR
GET RID OF THIS LITTLE MONSTER!
WAIT! THAT SPINDLY OLD CHAIR! NOW I KNOW MY HUNCH IS RIGHT!
OKAY, JOE, AL--LOCK UP BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THAT OLD GRAIN MILL--AND PLANT A TIME BOMB THERE! THE ONLY WAY THEY'LL GET OUT IS BY BEING BLOWN OUT!
OH, DEAR.. HOW WILL I SAVE THEM?
SOON, IN MISTER X'S MAKESHIFT PRISON...
UHH! THIS DOOR'S LOCKED SOLID! IT WON'T BUDGE!
AND THERE'S A TIME BOMB SET TO GO OFF ANY MINUTE! THE CATWOMAN HAD BETTER NOT FAIL US--OR WE'RE GONERS!
BUT AT THAT INSTANT, WHEN THE CATWOMAN TRIES TO ACT...
AHA... JUST AS I EXPECTED! SHE WAS ABOUT TO THROW THIS GLASS VIAL--PROBABLY LOADED WITH KNOCKOUT GAS! GRAB HER, BOYS!
BUT... BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?
HUH? I DON'T GET IT, BOSS--BUT YOU'RE GIVIN' THE ORDERS!
MINUTES LATER...
TOO BAD, CATWOMAN... MOUSEY ESCAPED FROM JAIL AND LET ME IN ON YOUR WHOLE SCHEME! NOW, YOU'RE DOOMED! AFTER WE TIE YOU TO THIS TRACTOR, WE'LL SEND YOU HURTLING OVER THAT CLIFF! HA, HA!
WITH BOTH BATMAN, ROBIN AND THE CATWOMAN FACING DEATH, WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW? HOW CAN THEY POSSIBLY BE SAVED?

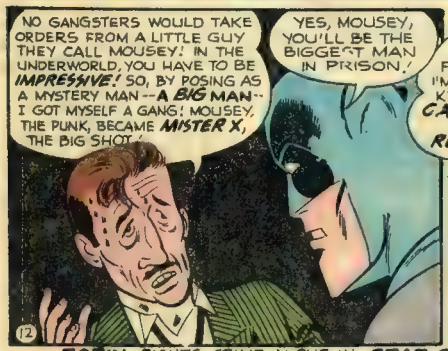
MEANWHILE...
WE CAN'T RISK WAITING FOR THE CATWOMAN ANY LONGER! ROBIN, HELP ME PUSH THIS MILL STONE TO THE FLOOR! HURRY!
SURE... BUT I DON'T GET IT, BATMAN!
WHEN THE TWO MILL STONES LIE IN A LINE POINTING TO THE STRONG DOOR...
THERE! I'VE WEDGED THESE SACKS OF RICE BETWEEN THE DOOR AND THE FIRST STONE! GRAB THAT WATER HOSE, ROBIN AND START DRENCHING THE RICE BAGS!
GOSH, I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING ...I DON'T!
RICE SWELLS ENORMOUSLY WHEN IT'S WET! IT'S A KNOWN FACT THAT A WET CARGO OF RICE USED TO SMASH OPEN THE HULLS OF WOODEN SAILING SHIPS!
OH... I GET IT! YOU FIGURE THE WET RICE WILL EXPAND ENOUGH TO BURST DOWN THAT DOOR! IT'LL BE A NICE TRY, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T WORK!
SECONDS LATER...
OHH! THEY'RE DEAD! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE DEAD! SOB!
GOOD! NOW, DIPPER, START THE TRACTOR MOTOR! IT WILL TAKE THIS DOUBLE-CROSSER RIGHT OVER THE CLIFF!
DOUBLE-CROSSER? Y'MEAN SHE HELD OUT SOME LOOT? AND WHAT'S THAT CRACK YOU MADE ABOUT MOUSEY?
BOOM
AND AS THE TRACTOR GROWLS OMINOUSLY...
I'LL EXPLAIN THINGS LATER, BOYS! LET ME WATCH THIS FIRST!
RRR ROAR
BATMAN, WE'RE TOO LATE! THE CATWOMAN'S HEADED OVER THE CLIFF!
INSTANTLY, BATMAN WHIPS UP A DISCARDED, BROKEN WHEAT SCYTHE AND HISSES IT FORWARD LIKE A BOOMERANG...
SNAP


THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED THUGS CAN TURN...
DIPPER HAS DROPPED! BATMAN--THERE GOES MISTER X! HE'S GETTING AWAY!


BUT AS THE MASKED GANG CHIEF PASSES THE CATWOMAN...
THANKS FOR THE HAND, CATWOMAN! AHH- I HAD A HUNCH MISTER X WAS A SHORT MAN!
SHORT MAN?! WHY, MISTER X IS MOUSEY!!


I SEE... HE WORE A WOODEN FRAME TO MAKE HIM LOOK BIGGER!
I REALIZED MISTER X WAS ONLY MASQUERADING AS A BIG MAN BECAUSE HIS FLIMSY CHAIR DIDN'T CREAK OR BREAK UNDER HIS WEIGHT! HE DIDN'T YELL WHEN THE CAT WAS CLAWING HIS LEG, SO I GUESSED HE WAS WEARING WOODEN STILTS!

LATER, MOUSEY EXPLAINS THE REASON FOR HIS DISGUISE...
FIRST, IT WAS A GOOD COVERUP! THE COPS WOULD BE HUNTING FOR MISTER X, NOT A PUNK NAMED MOUSEY! YEAH... MY NAME... MOUSEY ... THAT WAS THE REAL REASON FOR EVERYTHING...


NO GANGSTERS WOULD TAKE ORDERS FROM A LITTLE GUY THEY CALL MOUSEY! IN THE UNDERWORLD, YOU HAVE TO BE IMPRESSIVE! SO, BY POSING AS A MYSTERY MAN--A BIG MAN--I GOT MYSELF A GANG! MOUSEY, THE PUNK, BECAME MISTER X, THE BIG SHOT!
YES, MOUSEY, YOU'LL BE THE BIGGEST MAN IN PRISON!
12

AND SO, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
THAT'S THAT! FROM NOW ON I'M PLAIN SELINA KYLE! THE CATWOMAN HAS RETIRED!
I WONDER! SOMEHOW, I THINK THE LAW WILL AGAIN NEED THE SERVICES OF CATWOMAN--POLICE OPERATIVE... AND IT MAY BE SOONER THAN YOU THINK!
THE END

Dear Dad,
Won't you make this a
Columbia Christmas, please? *

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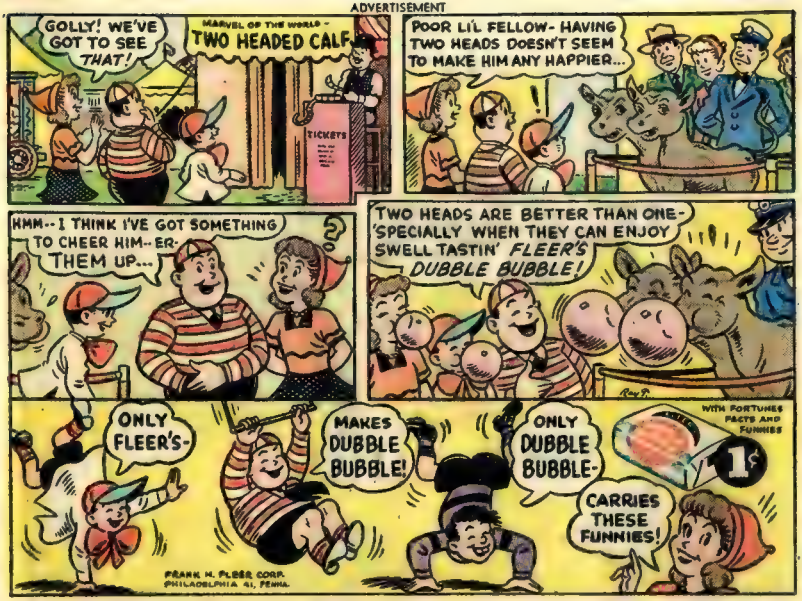
GOLLY! WE'VE GOT TO SEE THAT!
MARVEL OF THE WORLD - TWO HEADED CALF
TICKETS
POOR LIL FELLOW- HAVING TWO HEADS DOESN'T SEEM TO MAKE HIM ANY HAPPIER...
HMM--I THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO CHEER HIM--ER-THEM UP...
TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE-'SPECIALLY WHEN THEY CAN ENJOY SWELL TASTIN' FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE!
ONLY FLEER'S-
MAKES DUBBLE BUBBLE!
ONLY DUBBLE BUBBLE-
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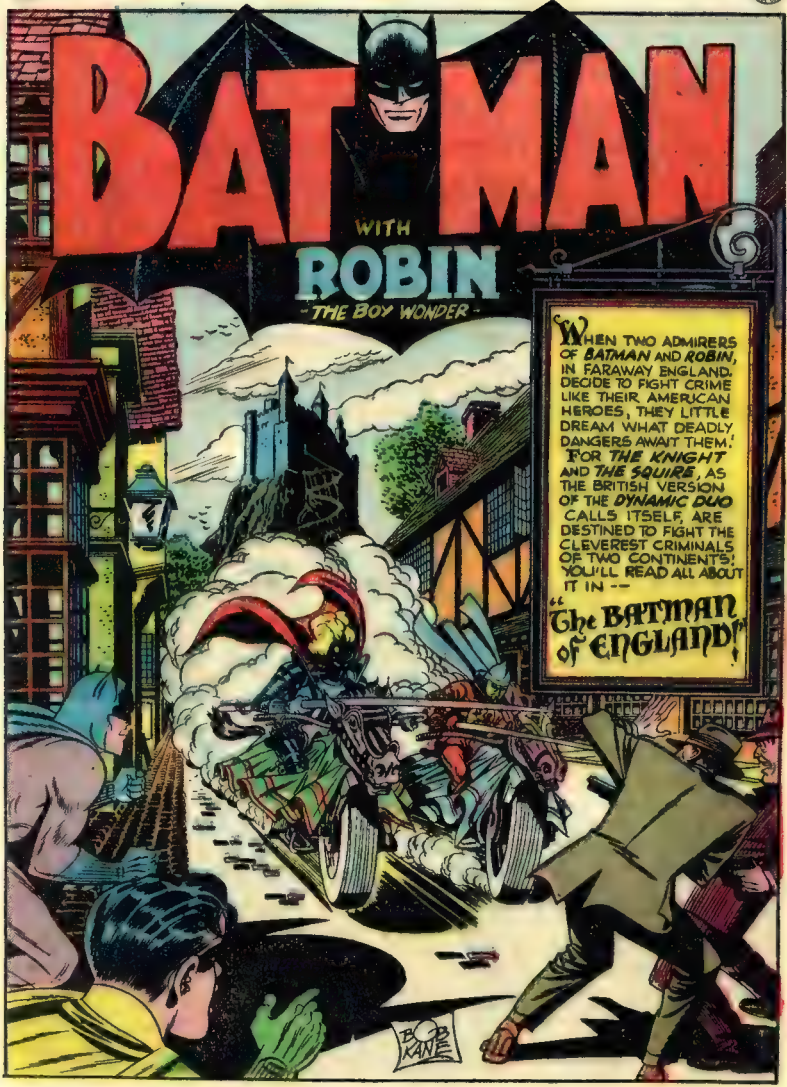
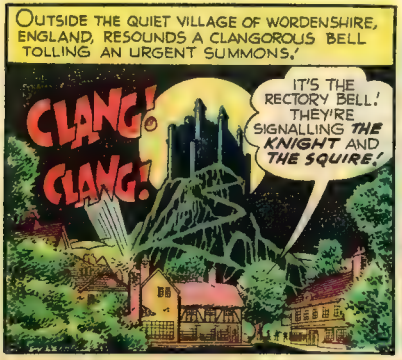
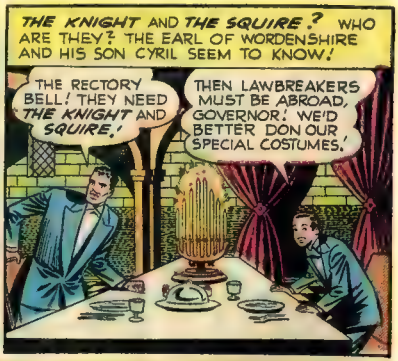
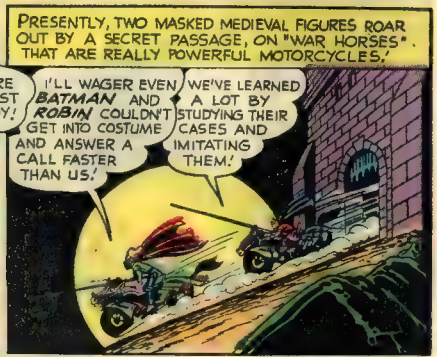
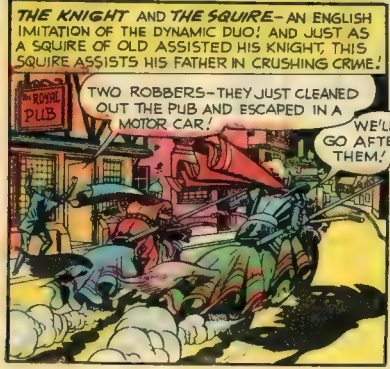

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
"WHEN TWO ADMIRERS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, IN FARAWAY ENGLAND, DECIDE TO FIGHT CRIME LIKE THEIR AMERICAN HEROES, THEY LITTLE DREAM WHAT DEADLY DANGERS AWAIT THEM! FOR THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE, AS THE BRITISH VERSION OF THE DYNAMIC DUO CALLS ITSELF, ARE DESTINED TO FIGHT THE CLEVEREST CRIMINALS OF TWO CONTINENTS! YOU'LL READ ALL ABOUT IT IN --
"The BATMAN of ENGLAND!"
BOB KANE

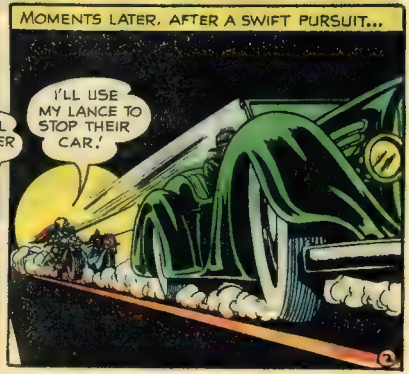

OUTSIDE THE QUIET VILLAGE OF WORDENSHIRE, ENGLAND, RESOUNDS A CLANGOROUS BELL TOLLING AN URGENT SUMMONS.
CLANG! CLANG!
IT'S THE RECTORY BELL! THEY'RE SIGNALLING THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE!

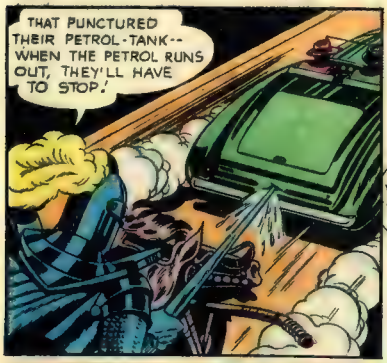

THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE? WHO ARE THEY? THE EARL OF WORDENSHIRE AND HIS SON CYRIL SEEM TO KNOW!
THE RECTORY BELL! THEY NEED THE KNIGHT AND SQUIRE!
THEN LAWBREAKERS MUST BE ABROAD, GOVERNOR! WE'D BETTER DON OUR SPECIAL COSTUMES!

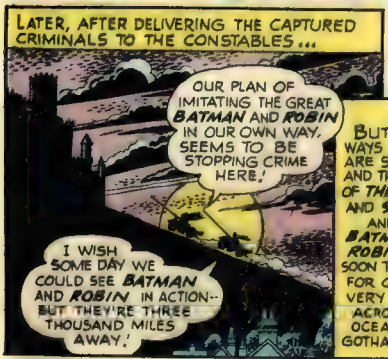
HASTENING DOWN TO ONE OF THE SHADOWY CRYPTS BENEATH THE OLD CASTLE...
THEY'RE STILL RINGING!
WE'RE ALMOST READY!


PRESENTLY, TWO MASKED MEDIEVAL FIGURES ROAR OUT BY A SECRET PASSAGE, ON "WAR HORSES" THAT ARE REALLY POWERFUL MOTORCYCLES!
I'LL WAGER EVEN BATMAN AND ROBIN COULDN'T GET INTO COSTUME AND ANSWER A CALL FASTER THAN US!
WE'VE LEARNED A LOT BY STUDYING THEIR CASES AND IMITATING THEM!

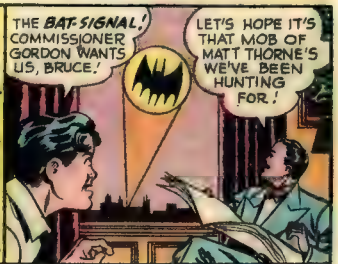

THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE—AN ENGLISH IMITATION OF THE DYNAMIC DUO! AND JUST AS A SQUIRE OF OLD ASSISTED HIS KNIGHT, THIS SQUIRE ASSISTS HIS FATHER IN CRUSHING CRIME!
THE ROYAL PUB
TWO ROBBERS—THEY JUST CLEANED OUT THE PUB AND ESCAPED IN A MOTOR CAR!
WE'LL GO AFTER THEM!

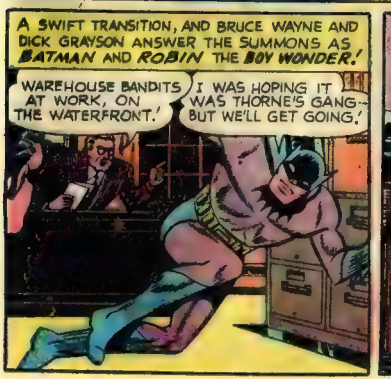

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER A SWIFT PURSUIT...
I'LL USE MY LANCE TO STOP THEIR CAR!

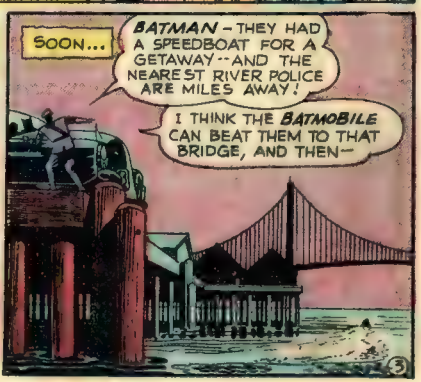



LATER, AFTER DELIVERING THE CAPTURED CRIMINALS TO THE CONSTABLES...
OUR PLAN OF IMITATING THE GREAT BATMAN AND ROBIN IN OUR OWN WAY, SEEMS TO BE STOPPING CRIME HERE!
I WISH SOME DAY WE COULD SEE BATMAN AND ROBIN IN ACTION-- BUT THEY'RE THREE THOUSAND MILES AWAY!

BUT THE WAYS OF FATE ARE STRANGE, AND THE PATHS OF THE KNIGHT AND SQUIRE AND OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, ARE SOON TO CROSS! FOR ON THIS VERY NIGHT, ACROSS THE OCEAN IN GOTHAM CITY...



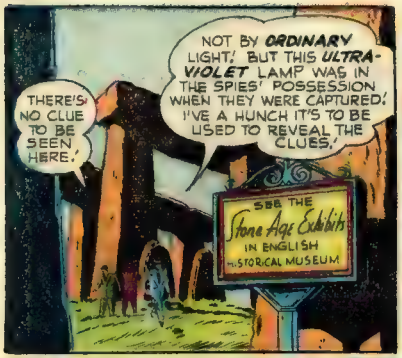

A SWIFT TRANSITION, AND BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON ANSWER THE SUMMONS AS BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER!
WAREHOUSE BANDITS AT WORK, ON THE WATERFRONT.
I WAS HOPING IT WAS THORNE'S GANG-- BUT WE'LL GET GOING.

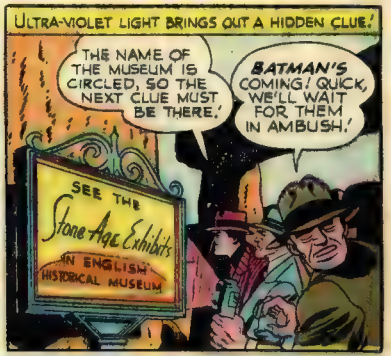

SOON...
BATMAN - THEY HAD A SPEEDBOAT FOR A GETAWAY--AND THE NEAREST RIVER POLICE ARE MILES AWAY!
I THINK THE BATMOBILE CAN BEAT THEM TO THAT BRIDGE, AND THEN--
3

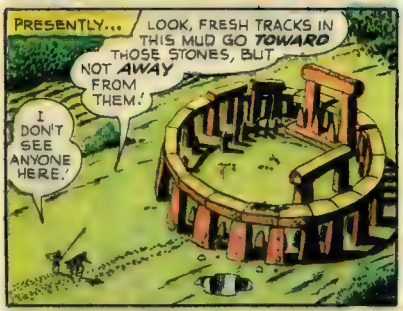
MIND IF WE DROP IN ON YOU?
GRAB THEM WHILE THEY'RE STILL STUNNED!
LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
DO EITHER OF YOU KNOW WHERE MATT THORNE HAS GONE? TELL US, AND IT'LL MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR YOU!
I'LL TALK!
THORNE AND HIS MOB WENT TO ENGLAND! THEY GOT ON THE TRAIL OF RICH LOOT--A TREASURE IN GOLD BURIED DURING THE WAR BY NAZI SPIES, BEFORE THEY WERE CAUGHT!
THEN WE'LL FOLLOW THORNE--TO ENGLAND!
LATER, MATT THORNE AND HIS GANG REACH THE ENGLISH VILLAGE ON A TREASURE-TRAIL!
THOSE CAPTURED NAZI SPIES BURIED THEIR LOOT SOMEWHERE HERE, AND LEFT CLUES SO OTHER SPIES COULD FIND IT! WE'LL FIND IT—AND THIS IS HOW WE'LL START TRACING IT DOWN—
SOON, THE CLAMOROUS RECTORY BELL AGAIN SUMMONS 'THE KNIGHT AND SQUIRE!'
SMASH-AND-GRAB THIEVES DID THAT! THE CONSTABLES ARE PURSUING THEIR MOTOR CAR!
THE CONSTABLES' BICYCLES CAN'T CATCH THEM, BUT WE WILL!
BUT THE POWERFUL ROADSTER DRIVEN BY THE CROOKS EASILY OUTDISTANCES THE ENGLISH EAGLES...
THE RAIN MADE IT GOOD AND MUDDY AND THEIR HORSE-MOTORCYCLES WON'T WORK WELL ON THIS ROAD!
THORNE SURE PLANNED THIS OUT SWELL!

BACK IN THE VILLAGE, TWO FAMOUS VISITORS HAVE JUST ARRIVED...
FIRST WE'LL FIND OUT IF THE POLICE HERE HAVE SEEN MATT THORNE.'
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT CRIME COULD COME TO THIS QUAINT OLD VILLAGE.'
WORDENSHIRE CONSTABULARY
THORNE.' HE'S ROBBING THE POLICE STATION!'
WE DECOYED AWAY THOSE HICK ENGLISH COPS AND THE KNIGHT AND SQUIRE, AND NOW BATMAN AND ROBIN SHOW UP.'
ROBIN, YOUR CORNY ENGLISH SLANG IS AWFUL.'
JOLLY MEETING YOU HERE, OLD BEAN.'
AT THAT MOMENT, AS THE BRITISH CRIME-BUSTERS RETURN EMPTY-HANDED...
I SAW STRANGERS GO INTO THE POLICE STATION, AND THERE'S A ROW GOING ON IN THERE.'
SO THAT'S WHY THOSE CROOKS LURED US AND THE CONSTABLES AWAY.' COME ON, MY SQUIRE.'
WHY, IT'S BATMAN-- THE REAL BATMAN.'
AM I SEEING THINGS?
LOOK OUT, WHOEVER YOU ARE.'
QUICK, OUT OF HERE.'
I SAY, WHAT IS ALL THIS--
5

THORNE ESCAPED! ARE THESE TWO MEDIEVAL CHARACTERS HIS ACCOMPLICES!
I'M HORRIBLY SORRY! I'M AFRAID WE RUINED THINGS FOR YOU! AND WE WERE TRYING TO FIGHT CRIME, LIKE YOU TWO!
AFTER THE KNIGHT REVEALS HIS SECRET IDENTITY AND TELLS HIS STORY...
AND THAT'S WHY CYRIL AND I DECIDED TO IMITATE YOU AND COMBAT CRIME! BUT WE'VE BUNGLED THINGS BADLY!
DON'T FEEL BAD! YOU JUST HAVEN'T HAD OUR EXPERIENCE WITH BIG-TIME CROOKS! NOW, SUPPOSE THE SQUIRE TAKES ROBIN'S PLACE AND ROBIN TAKES HIS? THAT WAY, WE'LL BE ABLE TO TEACH YOU SOME OF OUR TRICKS!
IT WILL BE WONDERFUL, WORKING WITH YOU TWO CHAPS! BUT NOW, WHY WOULD THIS THORNE ROGUE WANT TO ROB A POLICE STATION?
THEY WERE AFTER THE COURT RECORDS OF THE NAZI SPIES CAUGHT NEAR HERE, YEARS AGO! AND I'M AFRAID THEY GOT THOSE RECORDS!
I REMEMBER THAT THOSE SPIES WERE CAUGHT AT STONEHENGE, NEAR HERE!
THEN THE SQUIRE AND I WILL GO THERE! YOU AND ROBIN PATROL THE ROADS AROUND HERE IN SEARCH OF THEM-- I'LL CONTACT ROBIN BY BELT-RADIO!
MEANWHILE AT STONEHENGE, WEIRD, HUGE ENGLISH SURVIVAL OF A FORGOTTEN CIVILIZATION...
STOP WHIMPERING! THIS IS WHERE THOSE NAZI SPIES WERE CAUGHT! THERE MUST BE A CLUE AROUND AS TO WHERE THEIR HOARD WAS HIDDEN!
THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS!


NOT BY ORDINARY LIGHT! BUT THIS ULTRA-VIOLET LAMP WAS IN THE SPIES' POSSESSION WHEN THEY WERE CAPTURED! I'VE A HUNCH IT'S TO BE USED TO REVEAL THE CLUES!
THERE'S NO CLUE TO BE SEEN HERE!
SEE THE Stone Age Exhibits IN ENGLISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM


ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT BRINGS OUT A HIDDEN CLUE!
THE NAME OF THE MUSEUM IS CIRCLED, SO THE NEXT CLUE MUST BE THERE!
BATMAN'S COMING! QUICK, WE'LL WAIT FOR THEM IN AMBUSH!
SEE THE Stone Age Exhibits IN ENGLISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

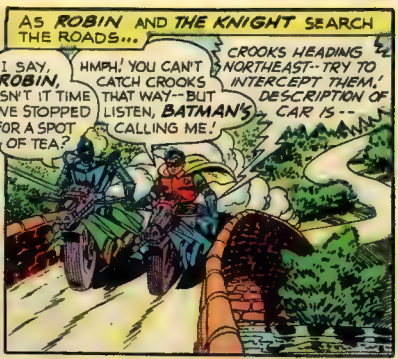

PRESENTLY...
LOOK, FRESH TRACKS IN THIS MUD GO TOWARD THOSE STONES, BUT NOT AWAY FROM THEM!
I DON'T SEE ANYONE HERE!

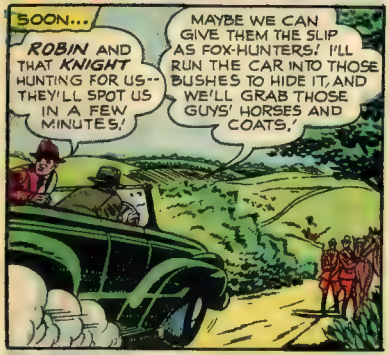
THEN THEY'RE STILL UP THERE HIDING!
WAIT, DON'T—

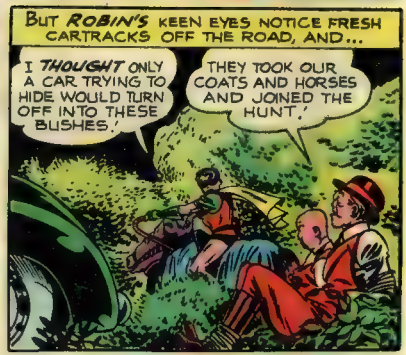
TOO LATE TO STOP HIS RASH ASSOCIATE, THE BATMAN RACES TO HELP HIM!
STOP AND STAY HERE WHILE WE GET AWAY—OR THIS KID GETS IT!
I CAN'T RISK CYRIL'S LIFE!
ALL RIGHT, I HAVE TO AGREE!

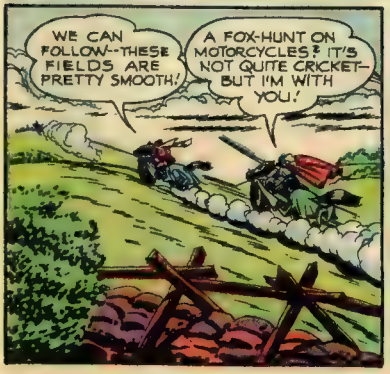
A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
HA, HA, THAT STYMIED THEM!
THANKS FOR MAKING IT EASY, KID!

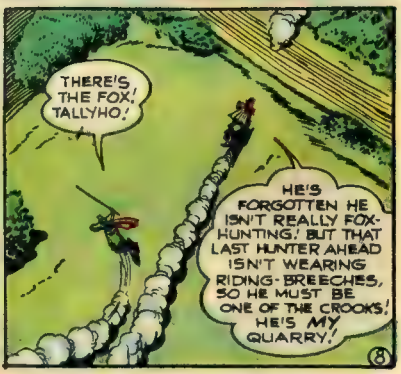
THEY GOT AWAY— AND IT WAS MY FAULT.'
SQUIRE, YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN NEVER TO RUSH IN ON DANGER WITHOUT A PLAN.' MEANWHILE, I'LL CALL ROBIN BY BELT-RADIO--MAYBE HE AND THE KNIGHT CAN INTERCEPT THEM.'

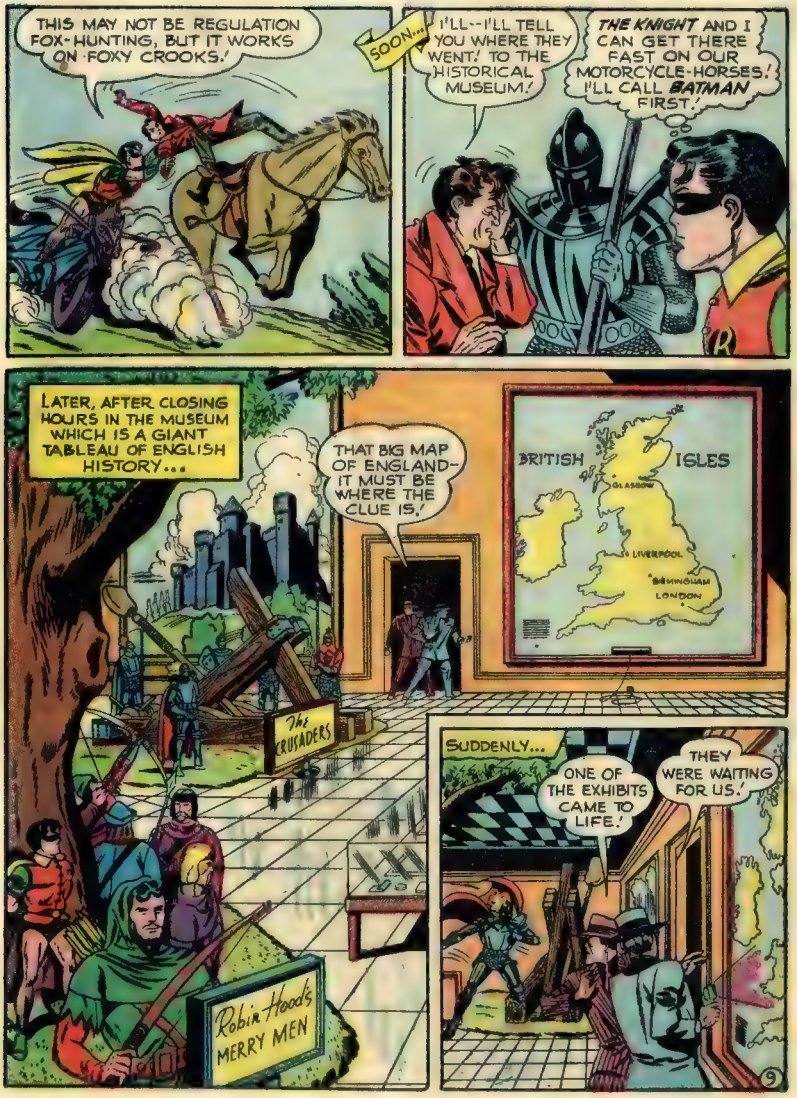

AS ROBIN AND THE KNIGHT SEARCH THE ROADS...
I SAY, ROBIN, ISN'T IT TIME WE STOPPED FOR A SPOT OF TEA?
HMPH! YOU CAN'T CATCH CROOKS THAT WAY--BUT LISTEN, BATMAN'S CALLING ME!
CROOKS HEADING NORTHEAST--TRY TO INTERCEPT THEM.' DESCRIPTION OF CAR IS--

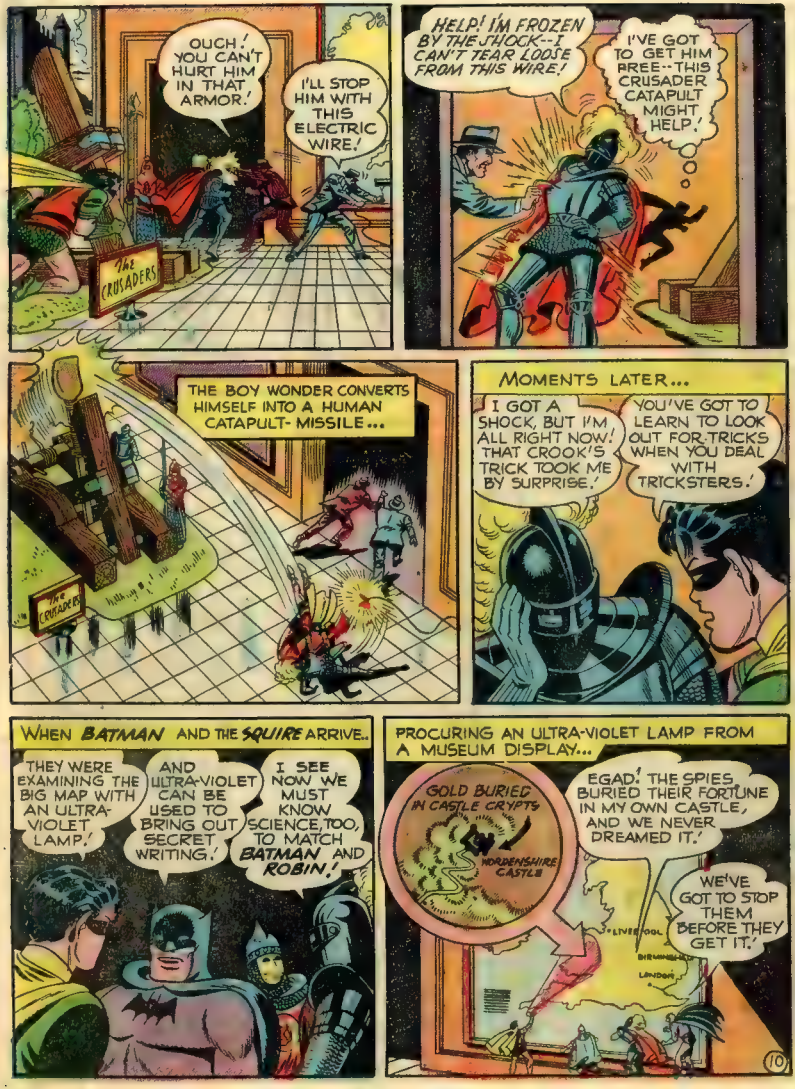

SOON...
ROBIN AND THAT KNIGHT HUNTING FOR US--THEY'LL SPOT US IN A FEW MINUTES.'
MAYBE WE CAN GIVE THEM THE SLIP AS FOX-HUNTERS! I'LL RUN THE CAR INTO THOSE BUSHES TO HIDE IT, AND WE'LL GRAB THOSE GUYS' HORSES AND COATS.'


BUT ROBIN'S KEEN EYES NOTICE FRESH CARTRACKS OFF THE ROAD, AND...
I THOUGHT ONLY A CAR TRYING TO HIDE WOULD TURN OFF INTO THESE BUSHES.'
THEY TOOK OUR COATS AND HORSES AND JOINED THE HUNT.'


WE CAN FOLLOW--THESE FIELDS ARE PRETTY SMOOTH!
A FOX-HUNT ON MOTORCYCLES? IT'S NOT QUITE CRICKET--BUT I'M WITH YOU!


THERE'S THE FOX! TALLYHO!
HE'S FORGOTTEN HE ISN'T REALLY FOX-HUNTING! BUT THAT LAST HUNTER AHEAD ISN'T WEARING RIDING-BREECHES, SO HE MUST BE ONE OF THE CROOKS! HE'S MY QUARRY!


THIS MAY NOT BE REGULATION FOX-HUNTING, BUT IT WORKS ON FOXY CROOKS!
SOON...
I'LL--I'LL TELL YOU WHERE THEY WENT! TO THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM!
THE KNIGHT AND I CAN GET THERE FAST ON OUR MOTORCYCLE-HORSES! I'LL CALL BATMAN FIRST!
LATER, AFTER CLOSING HOURS IN THE MUSEUM WHICH IS A GIANT TABLEAU OF ENGLISH HISTORY...
THAT BIG MAP OF ENGLAND--IT MUST BE WHERE THE CLUE IS!
BRITISH ISLES
GLASGOW
LIVERPOOL
BIRMINGHAM
LONDON
The CRUSADERS
Robin Hood's MERRY MEN
SUDDENLY...
ONE OF THE EXHIBITS CAME TO LIFE!
THEY WERE WAITING FOR US!


OUCH! YOU CAN'T HURT HIM IN THAT ARMOR.'
I'LL STOP HIM WITH THIS ELECTRIC WIRE!
THE CRUSADERS
HELP! I'M FROZEN BY THE SHOCK--I CAN'T TEAR LOOSE FROM THIS WIRE!
I'VE GOT TO GET HIM FREE--THIS CRUSADER CATAPULT MIGHT HELP.'
THE BOY WONDER CONVERTS HIMSELF INTO A HUMAN CATAPULT- MISSILE...
THE CRUSADERS
MOMENTS LATER...
I GOT A SHOCK, BUT I'M ALL RIGHT NOW! THAT CROOK'S TRICK TOOK ME BY SURPRISE.'
YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN TO LOOK OUT FOR TRICKS WHEN YOU DEAL WITH TRICKSTERS.'
WHEN BATMAN AND THE SQUIRE ARRIVE..
THEY WERE EXAMINING THE BIG MAP WITH AN ULTRA-VIOLET LAMP.'
AND ULTRA-VIOLET CAN BE USED TO BRING OUT SECRET WRITING.'
I SEE NOW WE MUST KNOW SCIENCE, TOO, TO MATCH BATMAN AND ROBIN!'
PROCURING AN ULTRA-VIOLET LAMP FROM A MUSEUM DISPLAY...
GOLD BURIED IN CASTLE CRYPTS
WORDENSHIRE CASTLE
EGAD! THE SPIES BURIED THEIR FORTUNE IN MY OWN CASTLE, AND WE NEVER DREAMED IT.'
WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM BEFORE THEY GET IT.'
LIVERPOOL
BIRMINGHAM
LONDON
10

RACING THROUGH THE NIGHT, TWO PAIRS OF MAN-HUNTERS SWEEP TO THE CLIMAX OF A THREE-THOUSAND-MILE CHASE.
WE CAN'T GET IN THROUGH OUR SECRET ENTRANCE-- THEY FOUND IT AND LOWERED THE PORTCULLIS TO BAR IT.
AND THEY'VE RAISED THE DRAWBRIDGE.
BUT THAT ANCIENT GALLOWS UP THERE MAY COME IN HANDY!
A DEFT NOOSE IS HURLED UP AROUND THE OLD GALLOWS, AND...
I'M PROBABLY THE FIRST MAN TO SWING FROM THAT IN A THOUSAND YEARS.
MOMENTS LATER...
THEY MUST BE DOWN IN THE CRYPTS NOW!
I'LL LEAD THE WAY!
LOOK! THOSE EXTRA "MOTORCYCLE-HORSES"! THEY PROVE THAT THIS KNIGHT AND SQUIRE ARE REALLY THE EARL AND HIS SON.
AND THESE GOLD BARS WERE BURIED IN THEIR CRYPTS YEARS AGO, WITHOUT THEM KNOWING.
SUDDENLY...
YES, SIR KNIGHT--
REMEMBER WHAT BATMAN AND ROBIN TAUGHT US, MY SQUIRE.

--TO USE YOUR HEAD--AND YOUR FEET--WHEN YOU CHARGE CROOKS!
AND TO BE WARY OF TRICKS, LIKE THAT ONE!
THEY DESERVE TO FINISH THIS JOB THEMS ES, AND TO TURN CRIMINALS IN TO JUSTICE!
SOON, AT THE VILLAGE POLICE STATION...
HERE THEY ARE--AND WE FOUND THE GOLD THEY WERE AFTER, TOO!
HIP, HIP, FOR THE KNIGHT AND THE SQUIRE! THEY DEFEATED THE AMERICAN GANGSTERS!
AT LEAST, WE CAN FIX THIS KNIGHT AND SQUIRE BY EXPOSING THEIR IDENTITY! LISTEN--EVERYBODY--THEY'RE REALLY THE EARL OF WORDENSHIRE AND HIS SON!
WHAT BALLY NONSENSE! WE'RE RIGHT HERE!
BUT I WAS SURE--
THE BLIGHTER'S BALMY--THERE'S THE EARL AND HIS SON RIGHT BESIDE THE KNIGHT AND SQUIRE!
LATER, IN THE CASTLE...
WE FIGURED THEY'D TRY TO EXPOSE YOU, SO WE DISGUISED OURSELVES AS YOU TWO TO DISCREDIT THEM!
THANKS, BATMAN! IT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE--SO CLOSE THAT I THINK WE'D BETTER GIVE UP CRIME-CRUSHING NOW THAT THESE CROOKS ARE CAUGHT!
WELL, IF YOU EVER NEED US, JUST SEND FOR US AND WE'LL COME!
WE WILL! AFTER ALL, THERE'S ONLY ONE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN!
12
TOM EMS

MORE BATTLING BATMAN AND ROBIN STORIES IN DETECTIVE COMICS AND WORLD'S FINEST COMICS NOW ON SALE

CALLING ALL "BRAVES!"

START YOUR OWN SECRET TRIBE
GET
STRAIGHT ARROW'S
colorfully stitched
TRIBAL PATCH!

Tribal Identification Patch Shown Actual Size

MYSTIC MARK OF HONOR

Use it for your "tribe" or club badge! Looks swell on your cap or beanie! Put it on your favorite sweater or jacket!

START YOUR OWN STRAIGHT ARROW "TRIBE"!

To be a member all your friends should have this swell patch, for a "tribal" badge! Beautifully colored, made of *washable* twill, the designs *sewn* with thousands of embroidered stitches! Made by the people who made Army, Navy, and Marine patches, so you *know* it's first class! Stands up to lots of wear, won't fade, won't ravel! Looks like a million on sweaters, T shirts, notebooks, armbands, caps! Hurry, get this patch now, see that every member of your "tribe" gets one!

HURRY! LIMITED TIME ONLY!

ONLY 10¢ AND A NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT BOX TOP

You'll really "go for" this hearty, good-tasting, whole wheat breakfast! *Naturally* good for you 'cause it contains the bran and wheat germ! Ask Your Mom to get the original NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT—

the breakfast full of POWER from Niagara Falls!

BAKED BY NABISCO
NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT
Dept. N, Box 200, New York 46, N. Y.

Please rush me my STRAIGHT ARROW TRIBAL PATCH. I enclose 10¢ and a NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT bottop. (Please Print)

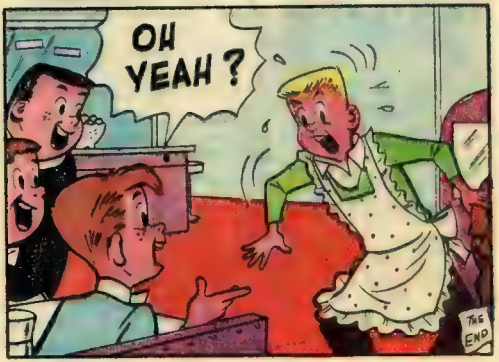
Name.....

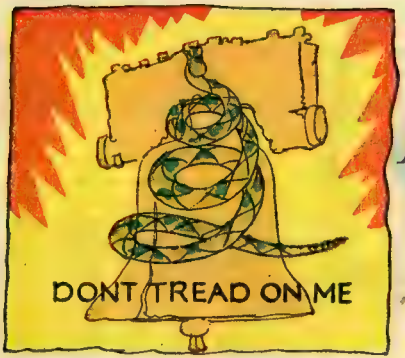
Address.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

(No stamps please. Offer good for a limited time and in the U. S. only.)

JERRY THE JITTERBUG





EARLY AMERICAN FLAGS

HERALDRY is as old as the human race, and the carrying of banners has been the habit of nations since the beginning of time.

Some years ago in northern India, Sir John Marshall, head of the archaeological service of the government of India, discovered two abandoned cities; one at a site now called Mohenjo-Daro, the other at Harappa, cities which are believed to have thrived about 3,500 B.C. and which were in close contact with the earliest civilizations of Babylonia. Among the objects found in the former city was a seal, used to sign documents, and showing a procession of seven men carrying square standards, held aloft on poles like modern flags. These ancient "flags" were not made of cloth but were rigid solids, like boards.

It was, therefore, most natural that America should have had its colonial flags as soon as the first colonists settled, and that those flags should have been created in an infinite variety.

Far back in American history, the Vikings carried a flag which bore a black raven on a field of white.

Then in 1492, Columbus sailed to our shores and his three small ships displayed the Spanish flag, bearing two red lions on two white fields and two yellow castles on two red fields.

The Dutch brought their own striped flags when they settled in New Amsterdam, which we now call New York, and pioneers from other nations also brought along the standards of their countries when they settled on our shores.

The British flag, under which the English colonization of America was effected, remained the flag of the colonists for more than a hundred years and is therefore of special significance to our country in the evolution of our National flag.

This flag is represented by the canton of the Grand Union flag. For centuries, the flag of England was the red cross of St. George on a white field and the flag of Scotland was the white cross of St. Andrew on a blue field.

Shortly after 1603, when England and Scotland became one nation, the two crosses were blended together. The Scottish flag was retained as the background of the new banner and the cross of St. George was superimposed on it. To retain a semblance of the white field of the English flag, the red cross of St. George was mounted on a strip of white which extends out and beyond the borders of the cross, making it stand out prominently.

Our separation from the mother country came gradually and it was only by degrees that the union flag of Great Britain was discarded. In fact, the final breach between the colonies and Great Britain brought about the removal of the union from the canton of our striped flag and the substitution of stars in a blue field.

Back in the days of the Revolution, there were colonial or regimental flags by the score. While the pine tree was a popular design, there were numerous other symbols, such as beavers, anchors and rattlesnakes, or combinations of these symbols with appropriate slogans.

In early accounts of colonial activities, liberty poles and trees play an important part. There was a fine old elm in Hanover Square, Boston, where the Sons of Liberty met, and which was known as the Liberty Tree.

A wide-spreading live oak in Charleston, South Carolina, made a shelter under which the leading patriots of the day gathered to discuss political questions, and there the Declaration of Independence was first read to the people of the City.

When, in 1652, the colony of Massachusetts first established a mint, the general court ordained that all pieces of money should bear on one side a tree, thus bringing into being the famous pinetree shillings.

Later, a white flag with a green pine tree and the inscription "An Appeal to Heaven" became familiar on the seas as the ensign of cruisers commissioned by General Washington, a fact which was noted by many English newspapers at that time.

Meanwhile, the rattlesnake theme was gaining increasing prestige with the colonists, and eventually a coiled serpent at the foot of the tree was added to the pine tree design. The slogan, "Don't Tread On Me," almost invariably appeared on rattlesnake flags.

The Moultrie flag was the first distinctive American flag displayed in the South. It flew over the ramparts of the fort on Sullivan's Island, which lies in the channel leading to Charleston, South Carolina, when the British fleet, under the command of Sir Peter Parker, attacked on June 28, 1776. The British ships opened fire at about 10:30 A.M. and continued the bombardment for approximately ten hours, but the garrison, consisting of some 375 regulars and a few militia, under the command of Colonel William Moultrie, put up such a gallant defense that the British were forced to withdraw under cover of darkness.

This victory not only saved the southern colonies from invasion for some two years but marked the first defeat of a British naval force over a period of years. The design of this large blue flag with a white crescent in the upper corner next to the staff was suggested by the blue uniforms of the garrison and the silver crescents which the men wore on their caps, inscribed with the words "Liberty or Death."

The maritime state of Rhode Island had its own flag, which was carried at Brandywine, Trenton and Yorktown. It bore an anchor, thirteen stars and the word "Hope," and its white stars in a blue field are believed by many to have suggested the "starry blue field" of our National flag.

There were a number of other famous New England flags, and noteworthy among them was the Bunker Hill. This flag, which was one of the first to include the pine tree, must be recognized as one of those carried by the American colonial troops who opposed the British Regulars at the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.

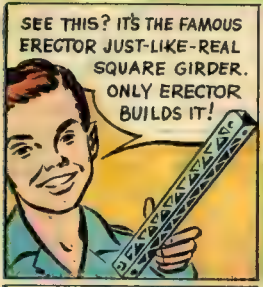
Strikingly similar to the Stars and Stripes is the flag carried by the Green Mountain boys at the Battle of Bennington on August 16, 1777. It has sometimes been claimed that this flag was the true forerunner of the Stars and Stripes and that our National flag was fashioned after the pattern of the Bennington flag, but there appears to be nothing in the written history of the flag that would verify this claim.

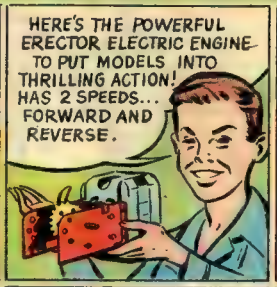
No type of flag appeared in a greater variety of patterns than the rattlesnake flag, and this symbol appears again and again in early American flags. A flag of this type was the standard of the South Carolina Navy; one of its variants was the emblem of the Culpepper Minute Men at Virginia; and still another, the rattlesnake, superimposed on a plain yellow banner, was known as the Gadsden flag.

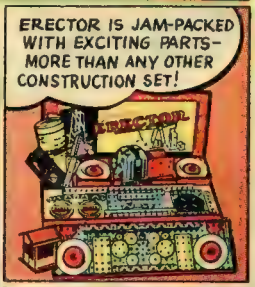
One writer of the time quaintly stated that as the rattlesnake's eye exceeded in brightness that of any other animal, and she had no eyelids, she might therefore be esteemed a symbol of vigilance; that inasmuch as she never began an attack, nor, when once engaged, ever surrendered, she was therefore an emblem of magnanimity and true courage.

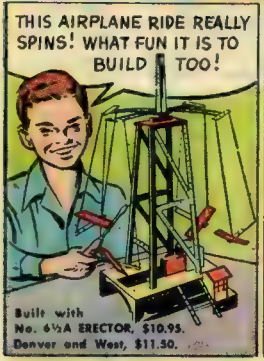
It was probably the deadly bite of the rattler, however, which was foremost in the minds of its designers, and the threatening slogan "Don't Tread On Me," added further significance to the design.

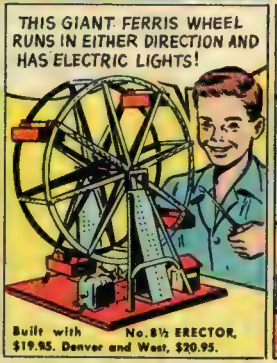
All of these flags and scores of others disappeared soon after the Stars and Stripes was adopted, yet the insignia shown on some of them was retained in some cases and now appears occasionally on state flags.

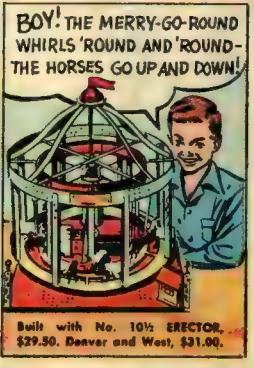


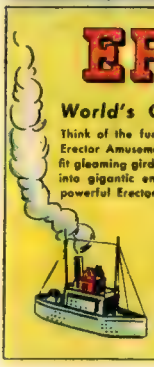







THIS GIANT FERRIS WHEEL RUNS IN EITHER DIRECTION AND HAS ELECTRIC LIGHTS!
Built with No. 8½ ERECTOR, $19.95. Denver and West, $20.95.





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RUSH BIG ERECTOR AND AMERICAN FLYER BOOK — 10¢ enclosed

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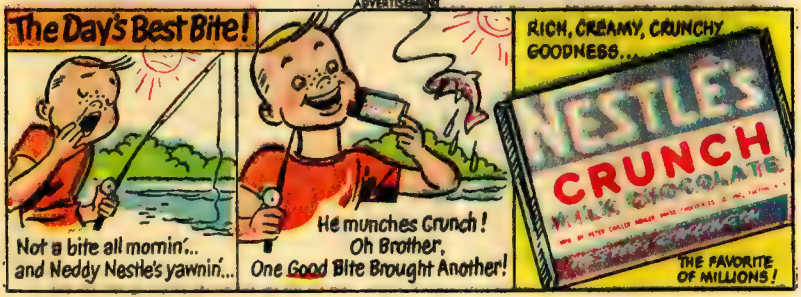
CASEY THE COP

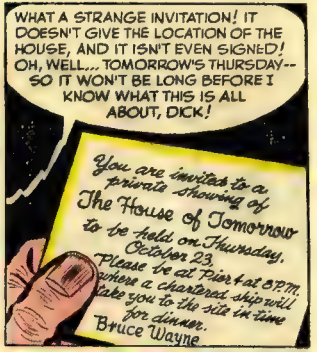
TONIGHT WE'RE GOING TO RAID THE '61 CLUB' - THE SWANKIEST GAMBLING PLACE IN THE CITY!
CAN I BE EXCUSED FOR A FEW MINUTES, SARGE?
I HOPE IT STILL FITS ME!
THAT NIGHT...
I'M READY, SARGE!
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

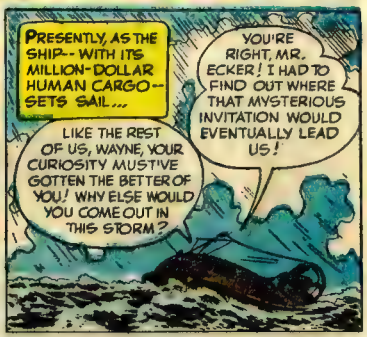

The Day's Best Bite!
Not a bite all mornin'... and Neddy Nestle's yawnin'...
He munches Crunch! Oh Brother, One Good Bite Brought Another!
RICH, CREAMY, CRUNCHY GOODNESS...
NESTLE'S CRUNCH MILK CHOCOLATE
THE FAVORITE OF MILLIONS!

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-
You are cordially invited to attend a party FOR MILLIONAIRES ONLY! Why? you ask? Because its being given for a special reason--a reason which adds up to DOOM for all that present! But don't be afraid--for among the uninvited guests is BATMAN, who drops in for a thrill and ends up trying to find one of the most cunning, diabolical criminals! So come along--IF YOU DARE--and see if you can help BATMAN solve...
"The MYSTERY OF MILLIONAIRE ISLAND!"
WAIT, BATMAN... YOU'VE FORGOTTEN YOUR PASSPORT TO MILLIONAIRE ISLAND!
by BOB KANE

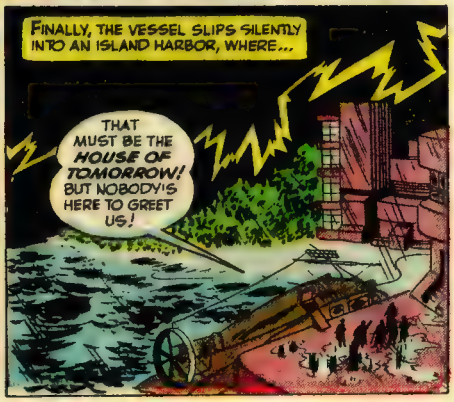
ONE NIGHT, IN THE GOTHAM CITY MANSION OF WEALTHY SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
THIS WAS JUST DELIVERED, MR. WAYNE!
THANK YOU, ALFRED! HMM... THE ENVELOPE'S EDGED IN GOLD! I WONDER WHAT'S INSIDE?


WHAT A STRANGE INVITATION! IT DOESN'T GIVE THE LOCATION OF THE HOUSE, AND IT ISN'T EVEN SIGNED! OH, WELL... TOMORROW'S THURSDAY-- SO IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE I KNOW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT, DICK!
You are invited to a private showing of The House of Tomorrow to be held on Thursday, October 23. Please be at Pier 4 at 8 P.M. where a chartered ship will take you to the site in time for dinner.
Bruce Wayne

NEXT EVENING, A MOST SELECT GROUP GATHERS AT PIER 4...
THERE'S BARTON HUGHES AND FIELDING ECKER! AND I RECOGNIZE MOST OF THE OTHERS FROM NEWSPAPER PICTURES! WHY, EVERYONE IN THIS PARTY IS A MILLIONAIRE!
HOUSE of TOMORROW PARTY


PRESENTLY, AS THE SHIP-- WITH ITS MILLION-DOLLAR HUMAN CARGO-- SETS SAIL...
LIKE THE REST OF US, WAYNE, YOUR CURIOSITY MUST'VE GOTTEN THE BETTER OF YOU! WHY ELSE WOULD YOU COME OUT IN THIS STORM?
YOU'RE RIGHT, MR. ECKER! I HAD TO FIND OUT WHERE THAT MYSTERIOUS INVITATION WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD US!

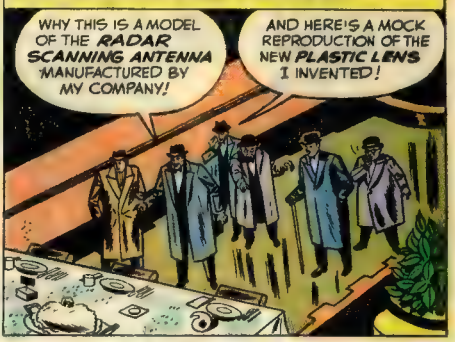
LATER, IN THE MYSTERIOUS SHIP'S PILOT HOUSE...
WELL, I'VE SEARCHED THE ENTIRE SHIP AND FOUND NO ONE ABOARD EXCEPT THE MILLIONAIRE GUESTS! AND THIS EQUIPMENT PROVES WE'RE BEING CARRIED TO OUR DESTINATION BY REMOTE RADIO CONTROL!

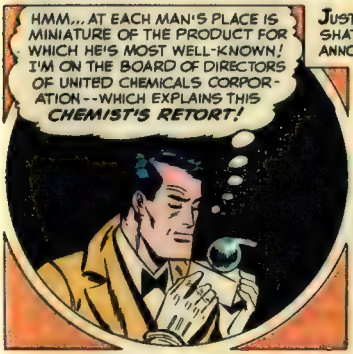

FINALLY, THE VESSEL SLIPS SILENTLY INTO AN ISLAND HARBOR, WHERE...
THAT MUST BE THE HOUSE OF TOMORROW! BUT NOBODY'S HERE TO GREET US!

AND AS THE PERPLEXED PARTY ENTERS THE STRANGE BUILDING...

WELCOME TO THE HOUSE OF TOMORROW! KINDLY PASS INTO THE DINING ROOM ON YOUR RIGHT, WHERE YOU WILL DISCOVER THE REASON YOU HAVE BEEN INVITED HERE!

MOVING AS IF UNDER SOME STRANGE SPELL, THE GROUP OBEYS THEIR UNSEEN COMMANDER...

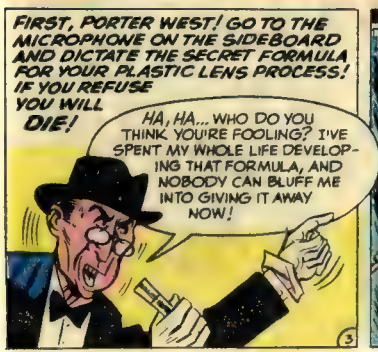

WHY THIS IS A MODEL OF THE RADAR SCANNING ANTENNA MANUFACTURED BY MY COMPANY!
AND HERE'S A MOCK REPRODUCTION OF THE NEW PLASTIC LENS I INVENTED!

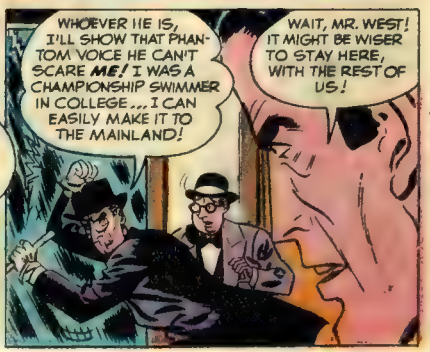

HMM... AT EACH MAN'S PLACE IS MINIATURE OF THE PRODUCT FOR WHICH HE'S MOST WELL-KNOWN! I'M ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF UNITED CHEMICALS CORPORATION--WHICH EXPLAINS THIS CHEMIST'S RETORT!

JUST THEN, A SHATTERING ANNOUNCEMENT...

GENTLEMEN, YOU ARE MY PRISONERS! THE BOAT HAS GONE--THERE IS NO WAY TO LEAVE THIS ISLAND, AND NO ONE KNOWS YOUR WHEREABOUTS! SINCE EACH OF YOUR FORTUNES DEPENDS UPON A CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET, YOU WILL NOT LEAVE THIS ISLAND ALIVE UNTIL YOU HAVE REVEALED YOUR SECRET TO ME!

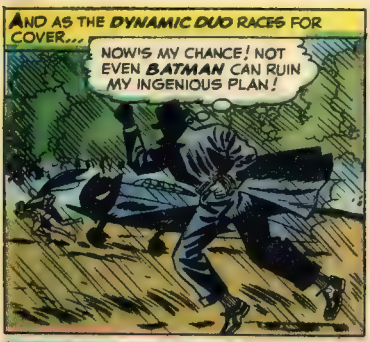
FIRST, PORTER WEST! GO TO THE MICROPHONE ON THE SIDEBOARD AND DICTATE THE SECRET FORMULA FOR YOUR PLASTIC LENS PROCESS! IF YOU REFUSE YOU WILL DIE!

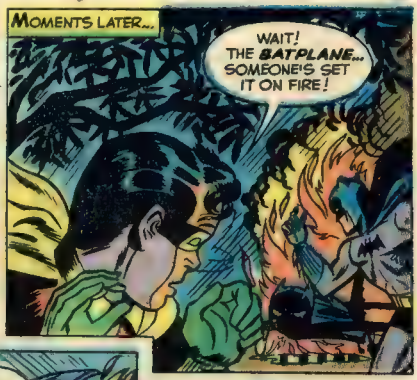

HA, HA... WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE FOOLING? I'VE SPENT MY WHOLE LIFE DEVELOPING THAT FORMULA, AND NOBODY CAN BLUFF ME INTO GIVING IT AWAY NOW!
3

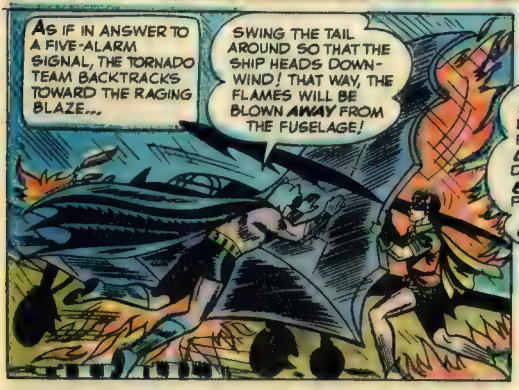

WHOEVER HE IS, I'LL SHOW THAT PHANTOM VOICE HE CAN'T SCARE ME! I WAS A CHAMPIONSHIP SWIMMER IN COLLEGE... I CAN EASILY MAKE IT TO THE MAINLAND!
WAIT, MR. WEST! IT MIGHT BE WISER TO STAY HERE, WITH THE REST OF US!

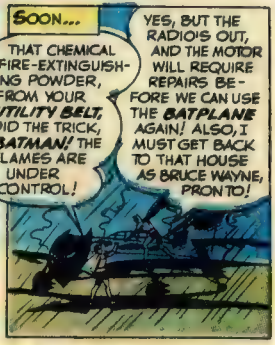
FRANTICALLY, PORTER WEST RUNS TOWARD THE BEACH, AND AS THE OTHERS RUSH OUT TO STOP HIM...
GOOD GRIEF! HIS FOOTPRINTS END AT THIS ABANDONED WELL! IN HIS HASTE, HE PROBABLY DIDN'T SEE IT--AND HE FELL IN!
PERHAPS WE CAN STILL SAVE HIM!
WITH SOME HELP FROM THE OTHERS, BRUCE LOWERS HIMSELF DOWN THE WELL, WHERE...
THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF HIM! HE SEEMS TO HAVE SUNK INTO THE MIRE!
THEN THE MYSTERY VOICE WAS RIGHT! WEST REFUSED TO REVEAL HIS SECRET, AND HE'S DEAD!
LATER, BACK IN THE WEIRD HOUSE OF THE FUTURE...
IT IS NOW EVIDENT THAT WHOEVER IS BEHIND THIS BIZARRE SCHEME, HE WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO FORCE US TO REVEAL OUR SECRETS! UNLESS WE GET HELP, WE'RE DOOMED! AND THERE IS ONE PERSON WHO CAN HELP US...BATMAN!
BUT HOW CAN WE GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM, PROFESSOR HENDRIX?
THIS NATURE BOOK I NOTICED WHEN WE FIRST ARRIVED...IT CONTAINS A FULL-PAGE PICTURE OF A BAT! I'LL CUT IT OUT AND FOCUS IT ON THE SKY THROUGH WEST'S MINIATURE LENS! ITS IMAGE SHOULD RESEMBLE THE BAT-SIGNAL!
VAMPIRE BAT
AND BATMAN WILL ANSWER THAT SIGNAL--IF HE CAN DO SO WITHOUT REVEALING THAT HE'S REALLY BRUCE WAYNE!
AND AS THE PROFESSOR PLACES THE LENS AND THE PICTURE BEFORE A POWERFUL LAMP...
YOU'VE DONE IT, PROFESSOR HENDRIX! NOW, LET'S HOPE BATMAN SEES THAT CALL FOR HELP!
4
THEN, AFTER A LONG, TENSE VIGIL...
BATMAN--YOU'VE COME! WE'RE SURE GLAD TO SEE YOU!
HELLO, WAYNE... YOUR SIGNAL WAS A BIT WEAK, BUT I WAS ABLE TO FOLLOW IT HERE IN THE BATPLANE!
BUT WAIT! IF BATMAN AND BRUCE WAYNE ARE THE SAME MAN, HOW CAN THEY BOTH BE HERE AT THE SAME TIME?

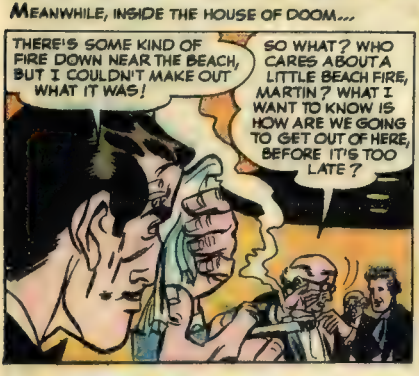
WHILE THE OTHERS WERE WATCHING THE BAT-SIGNAL, I SWUNG THE CAPE FROM MY COSTUME OVER THE GLASS DOOR! A VENTRILOQUIST'S TRICK DID THE REST! NOW TO FIGURE A WAY OF GETTING INTO ACTION AS BATMAN!
BLACK THREADS INVISIBLE FROM A DISTANCE
ABRUPTLY, BRUCE RELEASES THE SUPPORTING THREADS, AND...
BATMAN'S GONE! SOMEBODY STOP HIM!
DON'T WORRY! HE'S NEVER DESERTED ANYONE WHO'S IN TROUBLE! HE MUST BE PLANNING SOMETHING... I'LL GO AFTER HIM AND SEE WHAT HE WANTS US TO DO!
PRETENDING TO FOLLOW THE CAPED LAWMAN, BRUCE RUSHES OUT INTO THE NIGHT...
NOW, I MUST WORK FAST IF I'M TO GET BACK BEFORE ANYONE WONDERS WHAT'S DETAINING BRUCE WAYNE!
AT THAT MOMENT A HUGE, BAT-LIKE FORM APPEARS IN THE STORM-RIDDEN SKY...
THE BATPLANE... ROBIN MUST'VE SEEN THE SIGNAL!
AND AS THE BATPLANE SLOWLY DESCENDS TO EARTH...
BATMAN--I THOUGHT THIS WAS GOING TO BE A SOCIAL GATHERING! WHY THE BAT-SIGNAL?
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER, ROBIN! RIGHT NOW YOU'RE GOING TO FERRY OUT A PARTY OF MILLIONAIRES!
SUDDENLY...
BANG
QUICK, ROBIN! HIT THE DIRT!
MADE IT!
5

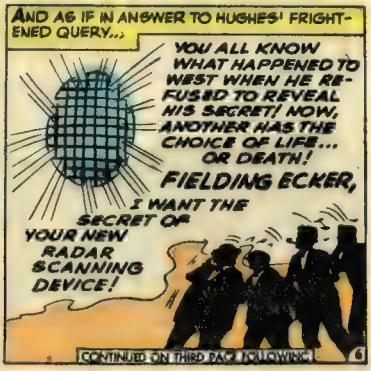

AND AS THE DYNAMIC DUO RACES FOR COVER...
NOW'S MY CHANCE! NOT EVEN BATMAN CAN RUIN MY INGENIOUS PLAN!


MOMENTS LATER...
WAIT! THE BATPLANE... SOMEONE'S SET IT ON FIRE!


AS IF IN ANSWER TO A FIVE-ALARM SIGNAL, THE TORNADO TEAM BACKTRACKS TOWARD THE RAGING BLAZE...
SWING THE TAIL AROUND SO THAT THE SHIP HEADS DOWN-WIND! THAT WAY, THE FLAMES WILL BE BLOWN AWAY FROM THE FUSELAGE!


SOON...
THAT CHEMICAL FIRE-EXTINGUISHING POWDER, FROM YOUR UTILITY BELT, DID THE TRICK, BATMAN! THE FLAMES ARE UNDER CONTROL!
YES, BUT THE RADIO'S OUT, AND THE MOTOR WILL REQUIRE REPAIRS BEFORE WE CAN USE THE BATPLANE AGAIN! ALSO, I MUST GET BACK TO THAT HOUSE AS BRUCE WAYNE, PRONTO!


MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE HOUSE OF DOOM...
THERE'S SOME KIND OF FIRE DOWN NEAR THE BEACH, BUT I COULDN'T MAKE OUT WHAT IT WAS!
SO WHAT? WHO CARES ABOUT A LITTLE BEACH FIRE, MARTIN? WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT OF HERE, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE?


AND AS IF IN ANSWER TO HUGHES' FRIGHTENED QUERY...
YOU ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO WEST WHEN HE REFUSED TO REVEAL HIS SECRET! NOW, ANOTHER HAS THE CHOICE OF LIFE... OR DEATH!
FIELDING ECKER,
I WANT THE SECRET OF YOUR NEW RADAR SCANNING DEVICE!
CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE FOLLOWING

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YOUR UNITED NATIONS AT WORK

A Story from the Files of the World Health Organization

EGYPT, 1947... IN THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF HEALTH...

CHOLERA! ANOTHER EPIDEMIC HAS BROKEN OUT!

WE MUST ACT QUICKLY! ALL OUTGOING PLANES MUST BE STOPPED AT ONCE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD TO OTHER COUNTRIES!

SWIFTLY, DOCTORS AND HEALTH WORKERS WERE MOBILIZED FOR THE BATTLE AGAINST THE DREAD KILLER! BUT...

WE CAN DISINFECT HOMES AND DESTROY THE BREEDING PLACES OF FLIES CARRYING THE GERM -- BUT WE HAVEN'T ENOUGH VACCINE TO INOCULATE OUR 19,000,000 PEOPLE!

THERE'S ONLY ONE HOPE!

AND SOON, AT THE GENEVA, SWITZERLAND HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS' WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, FORMED ONE YEAR BEFORE...

MESSAGES ARE BEING SENT OUT TO OUR MEMBER NATIONS FOR HELP TO EGYPT. I FEEL CONFIDENT THAT OUR APPEAL WILL BE SUCCESSFUL!

I HOPE SO! EIGHT OUT OF TEN VICTIMS DIED IN EGYPT'S LAST CHOLERA EPIDEMIC!

IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, PLANES FROM THE U. S., BRAZIL, CHINA, ITALY, HOLLAND, THE USSR AND MANY OTHERS WINGED TOWARD EGYPT -- AN AIR CARAVAN OF MERCY CARRYING TONS OF VACCINE, HYPODERMIC NEEDLES, DRUGS AND OTHER WEAPONS TO CONQUER THE DEADLY DISEASE!

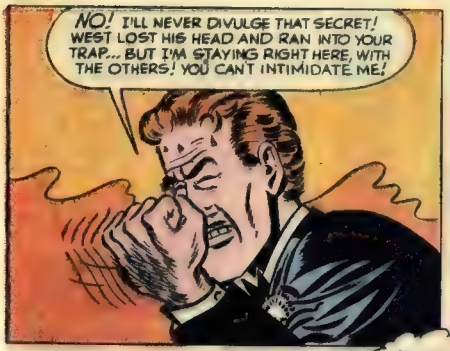
FOR SIX WEEKS THE EPIDEMIC RAGED, UNTIL FINALLY...

WE'VE WON! IT'S UNDER CONTROL! OVER 15,000,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN INOCULATED!

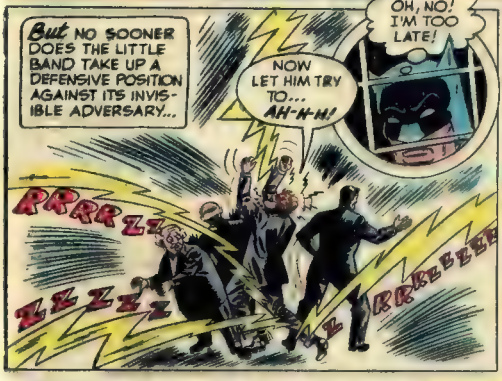
TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE HAVE DIED -- BUT MILLIONS HAVE BEEN SAVED BY QUICK INTERNATIONAL TEAMWORK... THANKS TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION!

THIS IS YOUR UNITED NATIONS AT WORK! WHEN YOU CELEBRATE UN DAY ON OCTOBER 24, BE PROUD YOUR COUNTRY IS A MEMBER NATION. THROUGH THE UN, OUR NATION IS WORKING WITH OTHER NATIONS FOR BETTER HEALTH AND HAPPINESS FOR PEOPLE THE WORLD OVER!

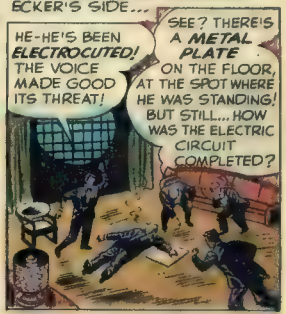
THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH LEADING NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS.

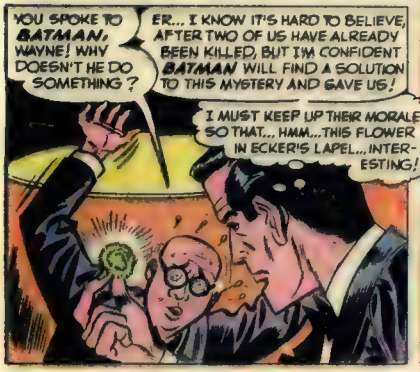

NO! I'LL NEVER DIVULGE THAT SECRET! WEST LOST HIS HEAD AND RAN INTO YOUR TRAP... BUT I'M STAYING RIGHT HERE, WITH THE OTHERS! YOU CAN'T INTIMIDATE ME!

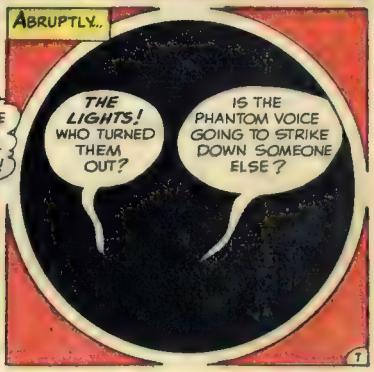
DON'T SIT IN THAT CHAIR, ECKER! IT MAY BE WIRED!
YOU'RE RIGHT, MARTIN! WE'LL ALL STAND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM AND EACH WATCH ONE OF THE WALLS!

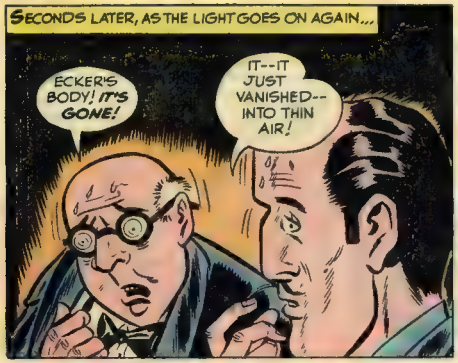

But NO SOONER DOES THE LITTLE BAND TAKE UP A DEFENSIVE POSITION AGAINST ITS INVISIBLE ADVERSARY...
OH, NO! I'M TOO LATE!
NOW LET HIM TRY TO... AH-H-H!
RRRRZZ
ZZZZZZ
RRRRZZZZ

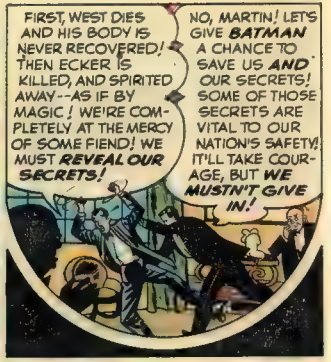
With lightning speed, **BATMAN** switches back to Bruce Wayne and races to the stricken Ecker's side...

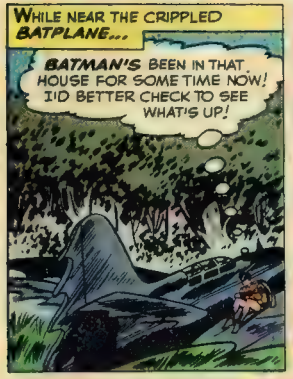

HE-HE'S BEEN ELECTROCUTED! THE VOICE MADE GOOD ITS THREAT!
SEE? THERE'S A METAL PLATE ON THE FLOOR, AT THE SPOT WHERE HE WAS STANDING! BUT STILL... HOW WAS THE ELECTRIC CIRCUIT COMPLETED?

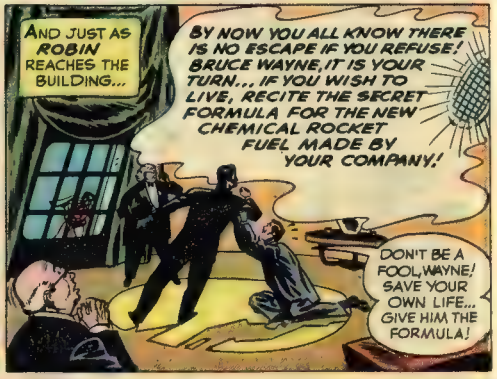

YOU SPOKE TO BATMAN, WAYNE! WHY DOESN'T HE DO SOMETHING?
ER... I KNOW IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, AFTER TWO OF US HAVE ALREADY BEEN KILLED, BUT I'M CONFIDENT BATMAN WILL FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS MYSTERY AND SAVE US!
I MUST KEEP UP THEIR MORALE SO THAT... HMM... THIS FLOWER IN ECKER'S LAPEL... INTERESTING!

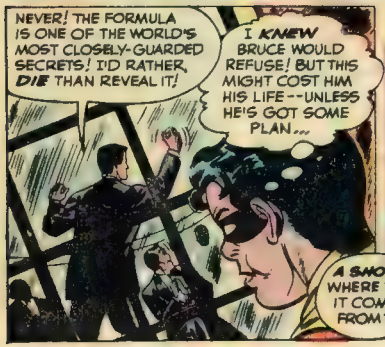


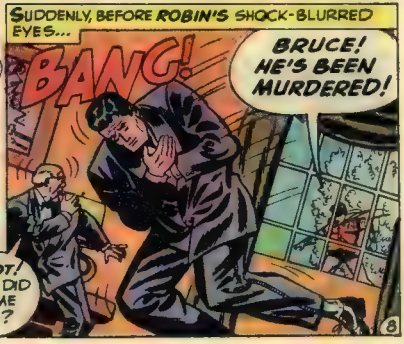

SECONDS LATER, AS THE LIGHT GOES ON AGAIN...
ECKER'S BODY! IT'S GONE!
IT--IT JUST VANISHED--INTO THIN AIR!

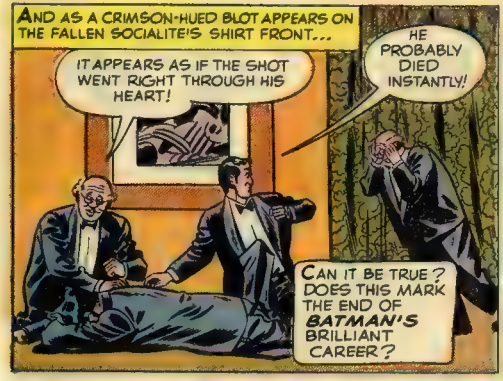

FIRST, WEST DIES AND HIS BODY IS NEVER RECOVERED! THEN ECKER IS KILLED, AND SPIRITED AWAY--AS IF BY MAGIC! WE'RE COMPLETELY AT THE MERCY OF SOME FIEND! WE MUST REVEAL OUR SECRETS!
NO, MARTIN! LET'S GIVE BATMAN A CHANCE TO SAVE US AND OUR SECRETS! SOME OF THOSE SECRETS ARE VITAL TO OUR NATION'S SAFETY! IT'LL TAKE COURAGE, BUT WE MUSTN'T GIVE IN!

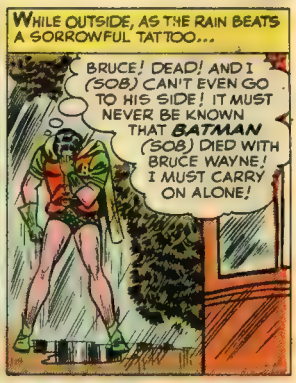

WHILE NEAR THE CRIPPLED BATPLANE...
BATMAN'S BEEN IN THAT HOUSE FOR SOME TIME NOW! I'D BETTER CHECK TO SEE WHAT'S UP!


AND JUST AS ROBIN REACHES THE BUILDING...
BY NOW YOU ALL KNOW THERE IS NO ESCAPE IF YOU REFUSE! BRUCE WAYNE, IT IS YOUR TURN... IF YOU WISH TO LIVE, RECITE THE SECRET FORMULA FOR THE NEW CHEMICAL ROCKET FUEL MADE BY YOUR COMPANY!
DON'T BE A FOOL, WAYNE! SAVE YOUR OWN LIFE... GIVE HIM THE FORMULA!

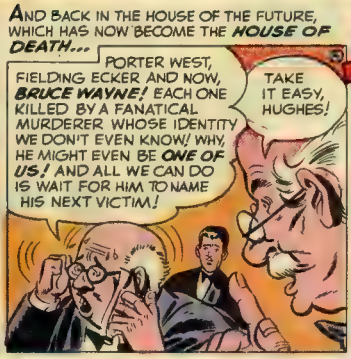

NEVER! THE FORMULA IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST CLOSELY-GUARDED SECRETS! I'D RATHER, DIE THAN REVEAL IT!
I KNEW BRUCE WOULD REFUSE! BUT THIS MIGHT COST HIM HIS LIFE--UNLESS HE'S GOT SOME PLAN...
A SHOT! WHERE DID IT COME FROM?


SUDDENLY, BEFORE ROBIN'S SHOCK-BLURRED EYES...
BANG!
BRUCE! HE'S BEEN MURDERED!


AND AS A CRIMSON-HUED BLOT APPEARS ON THE FALLEN SOCIALITE'S SHIRT FRONT...
IT APPEARS AS IF THE SHOT WENT RIGHT THROUGH HIS HEART!
HE PROBABLY DIED INSTANTLY!
CAN IT BE TRUE? DOES THIS MARK THE END OF BATMAN'S BRILLIANT CAREER?


WHILE OUTSIDE, AS THE RAIN BEATS A SORROWFUL TATTOO...
BRUCE! DEAD! AND I (SOB) CAN'T EVEN GO TO HIS SIDE! IT MUST NEVER BE KNOWN THAT BATMAN (SOB) DIED WITH BRUCE WAYNE! I MUST CARRY ON ALONE!

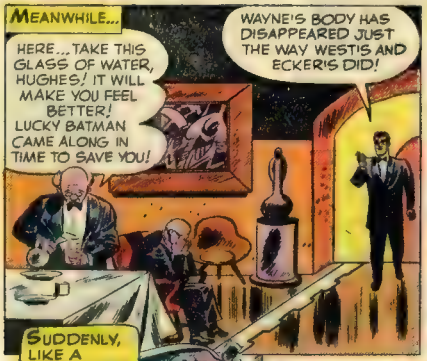
BUT ONE THING I CAN DO FOR MY FRIEND--AND THAT'S TO FIND HIS MURDERER! I'LL NEVER REST UNTIL BATMAN'S KILLER IS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE!

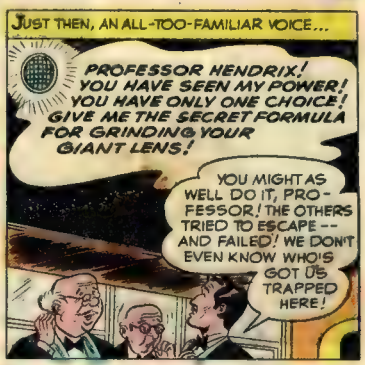

AND BACK IN THE HOUSE OF THE FUTURE, WHICH HAS NOW BECOME THE HOUSE OF DEATH...
PORTER WEST, FIELDING ECKER AND NOW, BRUCE WAYNE! EACH ONE KILLED BY A FANATICAL MURDERER WHOSE IDENTITY WE DON'T EVEN KNOW! WHY, HE MIGHT EVEN BE ONE OF US! AND ALL WE CAN DO IS WAIT FOR HIM TO NAME HIS NEXT VICTIM!
TAKE IT EASY, HUGHES!

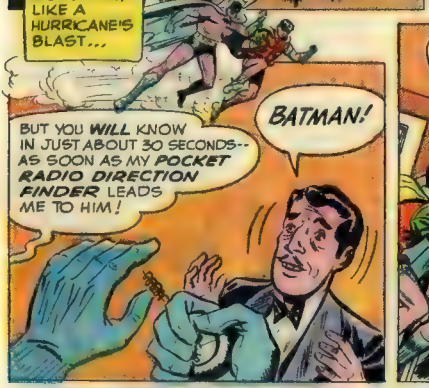
5
NO... I CAN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER! I'LL GIVE YOU MY SECRET, WHOEVER YOU ARE! I'M BARTON HUGHES... YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME!
HE'S GONE MAD! STOP HIM, BEFORE HE'S HARMED!

SPURRED ON BY HIS INSANE FEAR, BARTON HUGHES RACES TO THE PINNACLE OF THE STRANGE STEEL AND GLASS STRUCTURE...
YOU MUSTN'T KILL ME! I'LL TELL YOU MY SECRET! DO YOU HEAR?
STOP! STOP!
4

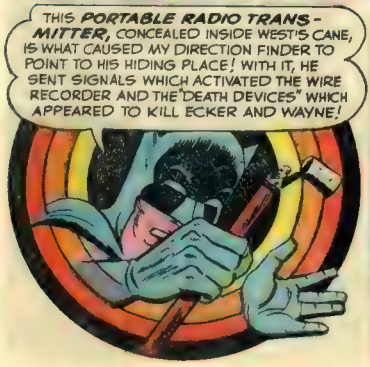
AND AS HE REACHES THE ROOF...
THE FOOL! HE'LL RUN STRAIGHT OFF THE END OF THE RAMP--TO HIS DEATH! I MUST SAVE HIM!
BUT BEFORE THE BOY WONDER CAN MAKE A MOVE, A MIRACLE SEEMS TO HAPPEN AS A SILKEN CORD SUDDENLY LASHES OUT AT THE CAREENING HUGHES...
BATMAN! BUT... BUT I SAW HIM SHOT WITH MY OWN EYES! CAN THIS BE SOME IMPOSTOR? OR AM I SEEING A GHOST?
LOWERING HUGHES SAFELY TO THE ROOF TOP, THE CAPED FIGURE PROVES TO BE NO APPARITION!
GOLLY, BATMAN! IS IT REALLY YOU? THIS IS THE HAPPIEST MOMENT OF MY LIFE! BUT HOW...
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO ASK, ROBIN! AND THE ANSWER IS JUST ONE PART OF THIS WHOLE FANTASTIC AFFAIR! BUT BEFORE I GO INTO THAT, WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO! COME ON...
LIKE TWIN TORNADOS, THE POWERFUL PAIR RACES THROUGH THE MAZE OF FUTURISTIC CORRIDORS, UNTIL...
LOOK! TWO WIRE-RECORDING SETS!
RIGHT! ONE PICKS UP THE VICTIMS' VOICES... THE OTHER BROADCASTS OUR MYSTERY VILLAIN'S VOICE THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE! AND BOTH MACHINES CAN BE OPERATED BY REMOTE CONTROL!
NOW I GET IT... THE MURDERER DOESN'T HAVE TO BE NEAR THESE SETS AT ALL!
EXACTLY, ROBIN! AND THE NEXT TIME THIS MACHINE STARTS WORKING, WE'LL BE ABLE TO REVEAL HIS IDENTITY!


MEANWHILE...
HERE...TAKE THIS GLASS OF WATER, HUGHES! IT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER! LUCKY BATMAN CAME ALONG IN TIME TO SAVE YOU!
WAYNE'S BODY HAS DISAPPEARED JUST THE WAY WEST'S AND ECKER'S DID!


JUST THEN, AN ALL-TOO-FAMILIAR VOICE...
PROFESSOR HENDRIX! YOU HAVE SEEN MY POWER! YOU HAVE ONLY ONE CHOICE! GIVE ME THE SECRET FORMULA FOR GRINDING YOUR GIANT LENS!
YOU MIGHT AS WELL DO IT, PROFESSOR! THE OTHERS TRIED TO ESCAPE -- AND FAILED! WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO'S GOT US TRAPPED HERE!


SUDDENLY, LIKE A HURRICANE'S BLAST...
BATMAN!
BUT YOU WILL KNOW IN JUST ABOUT 30 SECONDS-- AS SOON AS MY POCKET RADIO DIRECTION FINDER LEADS ME TO HIM!

HERE HE IS! QUICK, ROBIN... GRAB HIS CANE!
PORTER WEST! BUT WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
HUH?


THIS PORTABLE RADIO TRANSMITTER, CONCEALED INSIDE WEST'S CANE, IS WHAT CAUSED MY DIRECTION FINDER TO POINT TO HIS HIDING PLACE! WITH IT, HE SENT SIGNALS WHICH ACTIVATED THE WIRE RECORDER AND THE "DEATH DEVICES" WHICH APPEARED TO KILL ECKER AND WAYNE!

WHAT A FIENDISH SCHEME! WEST, YOU CERTAINLY DESERVE THE FATE YOU'LL RECEIVE IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR, FOR MURDERING ECKER AND WAYNE!
NO--WEST WILL BE PUNISHED, BUT HE WON'T RECEIVE THE SUPREME PENALTY! YOU SEE, ECKER AND WAYNE ARE STILL ALIVE!
BUT WE SAW THEM KILLED!

LEADING THE BEWILDERED GROUP INTO THE LIVING ROOM, **BATMAN** PRESSES A CONCEALED BUTTON...

WHAT'S THIS?.. A SECRET SET OF STAIRS LEADING UNDER THE BUILDING!

IF YOU GO DOWN THERE, YOU'LL FIND WAYNE AND ECKER! BY NOW, THEY SHOULD JUST BE ROUSING FROM A HARMLESS SLEEP! **ROBIN** AND I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW, TO REPAIR THE **BATPLANE!**

AS THE THREE MILLIONAIRES DESCEND INTO THE UNACCUSTOMED DARKNESS, THEY DO NOT SEE A BLACK-CLOAKED FIGURE DASH PAST THEM--AND A MOMENT LATER...

JUST GOT OUT OF MY COSTUME IN TIME! THEY'LL THINK **BATMAN** LEFT WITH **ROBIN!**

WAYNE! ECKER! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WHA...WHAT HAPPENED?

AND SO, AFTER THE POLICE RESCUE THE MILLIONAIRES AND JAIL WEST, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** RETURN TO THE **BATCAVE,** WHERE...

"I FIRST SUSPECTED WEST WHEN, AS BRUCE WAYNE, I WAS LOWERED INTO THE WELL TO TRY AND SAVE HIM..."

"AND SINCE ECKER WAS STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FLOOR--CONTACTING ONLY A POWER SOURCE, WITHOUT BEING GROUNDED HIMSELF--I KNEW HE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ELECTROCUTED..."

"SO WEST **PRETENDED** TO BE KILLED, THEN FAKED THE MURDER OF YOU AND ECKER, EH, **BATMAN?**

YES, ROBIN... HE WANTED TO FRIGHTEN THE SURVIVORS INTO GIVING UP THEIR SECRETS!

WEST COULDN'T HAVE FALLEN ALL THE WAY TO THE WATER! THOSE COBWEBS ARE UNBROKEN! PERHAPS THERE'S A SECRET WAY OUT OF HERE!

HIS WHITE CARNATION HAS TURNED GREEN! THERE'S A CERTAIN GAS WHICH CAN MAKE A PERSON **APPEAR** DEAD, AND WHICH CAN ALSO **TURN A FLOWER'S COLOR!** THAT GAS MUST'VE BEEN RELEASED WITH THE ELECTRIC SPARK!

"WHEN **MY** NAME CAME UP, I SIMPLY STUFFED MY NOSTRILS WITH FILTERS FROM MY UTILITY BELT, AND..."

HUH? I WASN'T HIT BY ANY BULLET... IT'S JUST A GLASS PELLET WHICH RELEASES A **SLEEPING GAS** AND A **RED SUBSTANCE** WHEN IT HITS MY CHEST! LUCKY I'M WEARING THOSE FILTERS...

I'LL PLAY 'POSSUM AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!

BANG!

WHEN THE OTHERS RAN AFTER HUGHES, WEST CARRIED ME DOWN THE SECRET STAIRCASE--JUST AS HE DID WITH ECKER--SO THAT A CLOSER EXAMINATION WOULDN'T REVEAL US TO ACTUALLY BE ALIVE!

WELL, I HOPE YOU NEVER HAVE TO PULL THAT "DYING" ACT AGAIN! IT WAS TOO REALISTIC FOR COMFORT!

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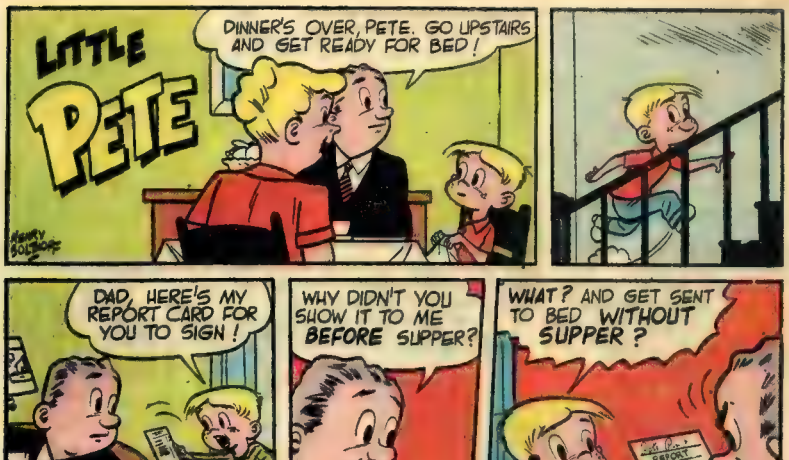
LITTLE PETE
DINNER'S OVER, PETE. GO UPSTAIRS AND GET READY FOR BED!
HENRY SOLTOFF
DAD, HERE'S MY REPORT CARD FOR YOU TO SIGN!
WHY DIDN'T YOU SHOW IT TO ME BEFORE SUPPER?
WHAT? AND GET SENT TO BED WITHOUT SUPPER?
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